



LAURA BITNER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Dan Teran may become president of the SGA despite losing the popular vote.

Irregularities plague vote for SGA exec. board

By STEPHANIE DELMAN & KATLYN TORGERSON
News-Letter Staff Writers

Five of the nine candidates running for positions on the Student Government Association (SGA) executive board have allegedly broken election rules, stalling an official announcement of the winners until an appeals process ends Friday.

It appears that some, if not all, of the contested positions will go to candidates who did not win the popular vote.

According to the Committee on Student Elections' (CSE) guidelines, all of the alleged infractions should lead to disqualification from the race.

Although these disqualifications can be overturned by an appeals board, preliminary results show that freshman Dan Teran should be president, sophomore Evan Lazerowitz should be vice president, sophomore Yasin Akbari should be treasurer and sophomore Tim Miller should be secretary for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Presidential candidate Sonny Chandrasekhar, a junior, won the popular vote, but his infractions will likely disqualify him.

Four of the candidates were cited for failure to turn in their campaign finance report properly or within the allotted time period, while Chandrasekhar was cited for unlawfully soliciting votes for himself and his running mate during the elections period.

According to CSE, candidates are not allowed to solicit votes once the

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First building opens in Science and Technology Park



SHIV GANDHI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A throng of Maryland politicians celebrates the opening of the John G. Rangos building, the first building to open as part of the East Baltimore biotech park.

New East Baltimore development offers promise, but residents remain concerned about the future

By MICHAEL ROGERS
News-Letter Staff Writer

This article is the second in a series profiling the various issues surrounding development in Middle East Baltimore, near the Hopkins medical campus.

Residents in the Middle East Baltimore community feel they are struggling to communicate with the group of developers responsible for changing their way of life.

East Baltimore Development Inc.

(EBDI), the non-profit firm leading the development north of the Hopkins medical campus, considers the redevelopment an evolving process, but residents in the affected area want to know what their immediate options are.

"The issue with communication is a legitimate one," EBDI President and CEO Jack Shannon said, when describing relations with area residents.

Earlier phases of the redevelopment, which began in 2001, required the relocation of nearly 400 residents to allow

for the demolition of their homes and adjacent vacant row houses. Under the current phase, fewer houses will be demolished, but residents must still accommodate construction and renovation.

Many residents of Middle East Baltimore feel that EBDI's intervention in their community offers promise for improving a troubled area.

But for others, the recent gains and promises of a better future have come with a cost: disrupting their way of life.

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John G. Rangos building to host Institute of Basic Biomedical Science

By MARIE CUSHING
News & Features Editor

Almost two years after breaking ground, developers officially opened the John G. Rangos building in Middle East Baltimore Friday in a ceremony brimming with prominent politicians, Hopkins administrators and development coordinators.

The nearly 300,000-square-foot building is the first structure in the Science and Technology Park at Johns Hopkins, part of a larger effort to revitalize Middle East Baltimore neighborhood that has relocated nearly 400 residents from their homes through construction.

"Our neighbors here have been collectively trying their best day in and day out to make their community strong, safe and healthy. We want to honor that legacy," said Jack Shannon, president of East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI).

Hopkins has leased a third of the building space as the new home for the Institute of Basic Biomedical Sciences.

The building was designed with interaction between researchers and industry in mind, according to Institute Director Stephen Desiderio.

The rest of the space will be leased to private biotech companies, three of which have already agreed to move in, while other floors will host business and retail.

Developers boast that this is the first biotech park built in conjunction with a neighborhood transformation.

They see this simultaneous development as a way to "rebuild and strengthen a challenged community in an ethically and socially responsible way," said Scott Levitan, development director for Forest City Science and Technology

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CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Journalist Kimberly Dozier discussed her devastating experience in Iraq.

Native-born journalist discusses her time in Iraq

By LEAH MAINIERO
News-Letter Staff Writer

CBS News correspondent Kimberly Dozier has survived a car bomb attack in Baghdad, covered the hunt for Osama bin Laden from Afghanistan, and reported on the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian violence, but she still faces an enormous challenge: keeping increasingly uninterested Americans aware of developments in Iraq and the Middle East.

Fortunately for Dozier, "surviving a car bomb is great training for surviving American journalism."

Dozier's speech in Hodson Hall Wednesday night drew a crowd of locals, faculty and students, bringing a strong finale to the Foreign Affairs Symposium's spring line-up entitled "A Decade of Discussion."

Her speech spanned across a range of topics, from the numerous challenges she faced reporting from Iraq to the importance of unbiased journalism in America today.

Dozier opened by describing

how she was critically injured May 29, 2006, Memorial Day, by a car bomb.

"I lost most of my blood and I was told my heart stopped twice," Dozier said.

"But the surgeons said, 'No, no, no, your heart stopped five times. You tried to die for two hours.'"

Dozier was transported to the United States and eventually recovered from her injuries; the same attack that injured Dozier killed two of her crew members, a translator and an American soldier.

Insurgents target members of the press for numerous reasons, according to Dozier. Whereas journalists in Iraq "used to stand

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Student bears torch, meets protests

By WESLEY SUDDUTH
News-Letter Staff Writer

Amid controversy over the decision to hold the summer Olympics in Beijing, China, participants in the International Olympic Committee (IOC), including Hopkins freshman Danielle Dorfman, were met with protestors everywhere.

Dorfman, currently studying biomedical engineering, served as one of 80 torchbearers in the Olympic torch relay in San Francisco this past week. The freshman was selected by Coca-Cola Corp. as one of six "Ambassadors of Active Living," a distinction given in the program to those selected individuals who promote an active lifestyle and contribute to make a positive difference in their local communities.

The Olympic torch relay is meant to symbolize the international communication, amity and peace that the Olympics foster. The Olympic torch's stop in San Francisco was the only one of its kind planned to take place in the United States during the 85,000 mile-long 2008 Beijing Olympic torch relay.



COURTESY OF SARAH HEREFORD

Hopkins freshman Danielle Dorfman was selected to run with the Olympic torch.

This year's torch relay has been marked by strong protests of the torch in virtually all the cities it has visited. Assaults on the Olympic torch have occurred recently in cities such as Paris, as protestors attempted to douse the flame as a political

message about China's conduct in the semi-autonomous region of Tibet.

In San Francisco, the IOC decided mid-relay to change routes in an effort to thwart protestors.

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University schedule still conflicts with religious life

By ALEXANDRA WATSON
News-Letter Staff Writer

Beer gardens and carnival food — the staples of Spring Fair — will not be enjoyed by students observing Passover, as the two events will overlap this year, leaving Jewish students to balance the festivities with a set of temporary dietary restrictions.

While universities across the country, most recently Harvard, are making strides to accommodate students' religious lifestyles, students at Hopkins continue to have scheduling conflicts with University events and religious holidays.

"We did make a phone call to Hillel to discuss it, and it was decided that there wasn't a lot we could do if we wanted to have a Spring Fair," said Jane Rhyner, a representative of the Department of Student Development and Programming at Hopkins, which scheduled the Spring Fair dates.

Rachel Heimann, acting director of Hopkins Hillel, said that this particular scheduling conflict was

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NEWS & FEATURES



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Sophomore Craig Sadler is one of many students who volunteer at A Place To Talk, a group dedicated to mental health counseling.

Mental health stigma persists on campus

By MICHAEL ROGERS
News-Letter Staff Writer

Amid national discussion of the tragic outcome of mental disorders left untreated, university communities have become increasingly concerned with providing timely and comprehensive assistance to students dealing with mental difficulties.

Despite last year's shootings at Virginia Tech showing the tragic consequences of untreated mental health problems, Hopkins officials and students alike find students are still reluctant to discuss mental health.

"College students today are more vulnerable than they were 10 years ago," Dean of Student Life Susan Boswell said.

A number of groups within the Hopkins community continue to provide students with services intended to help maintain their mental health. Despite the availability of these services, certain social and cultural barriers may prevent some students from using them.

"It's not a sexy issue," said Juliana Kerrest, president of the Hopkins chapter of Active Minds, a student group devoted to mental health awareness, education and advocacy.

After four years of listening to his fellow students, Aaron Lazowitz, director of A Place to Talk (APTT), observed that the mental health situation here on campus is "plagued by serious stigmas in regards to seeking help for mental health issues."

Lazowitz feels that students need to be continually educated on the importance of mental health to remove the stigmas surrounding the act of seeking help for mental stresses or difficulties.

If not, "many students will continue to suffer from mental health problems when there are so many resources here to help them," he said.

Director of the Hopkins Counseling Center Michael Mond con-

siders the stigma a cultural issue. Some people, he explained, are either embarrassed or ashamed of admitting that they are having difficulty because they are concerned that something might be wrong with them.

These attitudes pose a problem to the mental health of students dealing with mental difficulties. Clare King, a psychologist at the Counseling Center, explained that "many students don't seek help until they are in crisis, feeling they should be able to work things out on their own."

But at the same time, Mond pointed out that this "doesn't mean that students don't use the services" available to them. Of the approximately 7,000 undergraduates and graduates at the Homewood, Peabody and School of Nursing campuses eligible for the Counseling Center's services, around 1,000, or about 14 percent, seek them each year.

Most students who use the Counseling Center's services do not suffer from serious mental illnesses. The most common difficulties students face include anxiety, depression and problems with relationships, identity and adapting to a new environment. Mond encourages students to seek help in addressing these types of questions.

"The truth is," he said, "that people who use our services are wise," and not "weak," despite what stigmatized opinions surrounding the mental health discourse — or apparent lack thereof — on college campuses might suggest.

Juliana Kerrest recounted her own experience with confronting and observing mental difficulty.

"Mental illness is such a lonely battle no matter what," she said. "In the end, it's basically you against yourself. It's your own mind against yourself."

Kerrest said the loneliness of mental illness frightens people and makes them reluctant to discuss it with others.

She also observed that much of the stigma surrounding mental illness results from social interaction.

"There is a difficulty with friends not knowing how to react," she said. "People draw away."

The person suffering from a mental difficulty may not be aware that he or she is sending the signals but others pick up on them. "People get scared and draw away, which is understandable," she said.

Kerrest hopes to widen the experience and acceptance of mental illness among students by encouraging more people to talk about it.

"People who can talk about it need to," she said. She has found that it is difficult for students who have not had to deal with mental problems to explain and understand what it is like to confront them. That is to say, she has found two problems to overcome; while it is difficult to understand what experiencing mental illness is like, putting that into words poses further problems.

She considers the misconception around mental illness to be a form of misunderstanding, and insists that overcoming the stigma necessarily involves working to correct the misunderstanding.

Hopkins students have an array of services available to them. These include both services provided through official University outlets, and others available through independently run student groups. Official University mental health resources can be accessed through the Office of the Dean of Student Life and, more specifically, through the Hopkins Counseling Center. Student groups involved in mental health education and assistance include A Place to Talk (APTT), a confidential peer listening group, Active Minds, a group dedicated to advocacy for and education about mental health and the Sexual Assault Response Unit (SARU).

Amid protests, student carries torch

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In San Francisco, the IOC decided mid-relay to change routes in an effort to thwart protestors. Dorfman was sitting on the IOC bus ready to disembark for her leg of the relay when news of the decision reached her. As a result, she was one of the first torchbearers to run on the route's detour. While the protestors were extremely loud, Dorfman said that she never felt she was in any real danger.

"Because I ran when they had just changed the route, the protesting really hadn't gotten bad yet. The IOC and San Francisco both had security forces everywhere," Dorfman said. "When I was running, there was a layer of SWAT around me and then two more extra layers too."

Dorfman ran in pair with another torchbearer for security's sake, holding the torch for about five minutes before passing it over to her partner, an American Olympic softball coach.

The IOC's main priority with its security forces, however, was to secure the safety of the torchbearers.

"The IOC wasn't trying to stop [the protestors]," Dorfman said. "They respected what they were saying and that they had a right to free speech. They continually emphasized to us that their concern was first and foremost the safety of the torchbearers. The IOC wasn't upset, but they said they would do anything they had to in order to keep us safe." Despite the protesting, or perhaps in part because of it, the experience was momentous, according to Dorfman.

Dorfman was chosen from a nation-wide pool of over 1,000 nominees after Danielle's mother wrote an essay describing her daughter's commitment to active living. The Hopkins student created a non-profit organization in 2002 called "Running. Friends Forever," whose purpose is to provide shoes and other run-

ning equipment to underprivileged high school students in the United States and groups around the world.

"I used to compete in high school and run races in Miami, where I'm from," Dorfman said. "And I was surprised by all the runners who did not have the right equipment. So I decided to find a way to help solve the problem."

Thus far, with the money that the non-profit has raised and the donated running shoes the non-profit has accrued, Running Friends Forever has donated over 500 pairs of shoes, as well as thousands of dollars of athletic equipment, bicycles and college scholarships.

"It was definitely something I'll never forget. It allowed me to be a part of the Olympic spirit and play a role that I would not otherwise have the opportunity to do. Whenever I watch the Olympics, now I'll always have this memory," Dorfman said.

Baltimore gets green with Forest Project

By JENNIFER KLEIN
For The News-Letter

This Homecoming weekend, while the Beach was covered with sunbathing students from both past and present, it was also the site for the opening festival of the Baltimore: Urban Forest Project, the GROW! Festival.

GROW! Festival took place on April 12 and included a variety of events. For children, there was face painting, while a display tent projected banners, which will be on display across the city, aimed at education residents about planting trees and beautifying their community. Trees donated by Bell Nursery were given away as prizes.

Students of both Hopkins and MICA aided the program; MICA students developed the event's concept, while Hopkins students executed the plans. Among the Hopkins students involved were Mackenzie Barton-Rowledge and recent graduate Blake Hough.

"The great thing about this event was that while it occurred on the Hopkins campus, it drew a large crowd from the Baltimore community at large—over 800 attendees," HEAT President Julia Blocher said.

The Urban Forest Project encourages the use of greener initiatives through artful banners, a variety of citywide events and decorative bags. The project, which began April 11 and will run until June 28, is a collaboration of TreeBaltimore and the Tilt Foundation. Similar events have been held in cities like New York, Portland and Denver in recent years.

Planning for the project began about a year ago through the efforts of Rachel Baird and Jessica Pegorsh from the Tilt Studio Foundation. It was originally based on the initial event located in Times Square, New York. However, Baird and Pegorsh wanted Baltimore's project to be more community based, as well as have more information about sustainability and the environment, as well as be able to have a more direct impact on people's lives.

Baltimore is also canoping the city with banners. Addi-



ANGELI BUENO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

While raising awareness for a greener city, the GROW! Festival catered to all ages.

tional events are being held for two months that the Tilt Studio and their collaborators hope will teach Baltimore residents how to take personal steps towards making the city and world greener.

The Urban Forest Project plans to take this more community focused approach through the efforts of TreeBaltimore. One of the major goals of the Urban Forest Project is to raise awareness for TreeBaltimore. The stated goal of TreeBaltimore is to double the percentage of tree cover in Baltimore from 20 percent to 40 percent by 2030. However, as TreeBaltimore does not have access to enough public property to amass this green space, they are calling upon the residents of Baltimore to plant trees on their own.

Homeowners are given \$10 coupons on trees to plant as an incentive, as well as the knowledge that they are beautifying their city and helping the environment.

"We can stand around and talk about [the environment], have banners up— but its action that really makes a difference. TreeBaltimore does this," Matt Roberts, the press contact for the Urban Forest Project, said.

There will be around 350 banners hung in various locations across the city. Mainly local artists designed the banners, but there are some that were created by schoolchildren in Baltimore schools and some designed by Taiwanese schoolchildren. The banners are also relatable to Baltimore residents, with one banner reading, "Think Green

Hon."

Events will be held throughout Baltimore for the duration of the project. Locations include Patterson Park, Carroll Park and MICA. At these events, TreeBaltimore and the Tilt Studio hope to provide spectators with information about environmental problem-solving initiatives. Funding for the banners and other events is sponsored by Southwest Airlines, Development Design Group (DDG-green) and Comcast, among others.

At the end of the exhibit, the banners will be turned into bags through the efforts of Jess-M Bags. Pre-ordering of the bags began on Wednesday, April 2. Recycling the banners into the totes further spreads one of the messages of the Urban Forest Project — to avoid wastefulness, no matter what the circumstance.

Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon has been promoting the Urban Forest Project though the Greener Baltimore Initiative. Although the Urban Forest Project and the Greener Baltimore Initiative are not directly linked, Mayor Dixon, like the leaders of the Urban Forest Project, is hoping to impart information on Baltimore citizens that will motivate more responsible, environmentally friendly actions.

"Lots of private entities are doing positive things to make Baltimore cleaner and greener, and the Urban Forest Project is one of these," said Celeste Amato, a representative of the Initiative.

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SECURITY ALERTS

Between April 10 at 4:00 p.m. and April 11 at 8:00 p.m.:
Undecipherable writings were spray-painted on an outside wall of the Morris W. Offit Building in the Mattin Center. The investigation is continuing.

April 12 at 1:04 a.m.:
An alumnus who walked past a non-affiliated couple engaged in a verbal dispute became concerned about the female's well-being and attempted to intervene. The male, later discovered to be the woman's husband, pushed the alumnus to the ground. The altercation was observed by an off-duty Baltimore police officer working for Hopkins who placed the non-affiliated male under arrest. There were no injuries reported.

Things I've learned, with the Profs Caplan

By HUSAIN DANISH
News-Letter Staff Writer

Professors Marc and Beatrice Caplan, professors of Yiddish literature and language respectively, are one of several married professors at Johns Hopkins University.

The *News-Letter* sat down with the Caplans to talk about both their relationship and work here at Hopkins.

The *Johns Hopkins News-Letter* (N-L): How did you two meet?

Beatrice Caplan (BC): It depends on who you ask.

Marc Caplan (MC): We first met during my first semester of graduate school at NYU. Beatrice went to Columbia graduate school. ... I married up. It was my first semester of graduate school and I went to this Yiddish language lecture at this Jewish social organization called "The workman's circle."

I had never been to a Yiddish language lecture before and I barely spoke Yiddish at the time. When I entered the room, Beatrice saw me. We were probably the youngest people in the room by a magnitude of 60 years. She comes to me and starts chattering away in Yiddish and I was just completely overwhelmed and intimidated. I then had to stammer out that I don't speak Yiddish and basically letting her know that I was a fraud, I didn't know what I was doing here, why I was in graduate school and how I would ever get a job.

At that moment Beatrice interrupted and said that she wasn't so interested in this aspect of my psychological and emotional autobiography but that she would like to invite me to some Yiddish language activities that she was organizing for students. As a result, in the following semester, Beatrice was my Yiddish language instructor. I married by Yiddish teacher. A year later we both took a seminary class together and I think that's when we became friends. A year after that we started dating and less than a

year later we were married.

Beatrice Caplan (BC): And by that time your Yiddish was excellent too.

MC: I definitely want that to go on the record.

N-L: I hear you have a daughter.

MC: Yes, she is three years old. We definitely try to make time to be together with our daughter, Zipporah, watching television, playing together and reading. The great thing is she is getting a little older and she has already made an effort to be a part of our conversations connected to our work. We sometimes have conversations that most three-year-old daughters don't have with their fathers. For better or worse, I invite your readers to pity her that this will be an increasing part of our interaction with her.

BC: My position is part-time, so that's means I have a little more time to spend with her.

N-L: How did you two first come to Johns Hopkins?

MC: Beatrice was the Yiddish language preceptor at Harvard, which was a really important and demanding position. I had a research fellowship at Harvard. Both of our positions were temporary. In 2006, they created the Tandem Chair of Yiddish and Yiddish Literature here at Johns Hopkins. I was excited about this job. I came down here for an interview.

They were looking for someone who could teach both Yiddish language and literature. I proposed that they hire me as a professor in Yiddish literature and my wife as a professional Yiddish language instructor. And that was the decision everyone made which was conducive for both of us.

N-L: Being a married couple, what is it like to work at the same institution?

BC: I think it is great. It sometimes is very helpful to have our offices in the same building. Sometimes it makes looking after our daughter easier. We really



COURTESY OF MARC CAPLAN

Marc and Beatrice Caplan spend as much time as they can with their daughter, Zipporah.

almost always work with each other.

MC: It's a total drag. ... No, just kidding. That would be some story. It is an extraordinary luxury to be able to work together in the same institution, not only for the practical reasons. I know married academics who work on separate continents; I know of academics where one spouse works in New York and the other works in Berkeley. These are people who forced with the choice of pursuing a career or creating a family life. To not have to make that choice is really extraordinary in this day and age. It would be even better if Johns Hopkins offered more classes for Beatrice to teach.

N-L: How often do you two collaborate in your work?

BC: We haven't had much opportunity yet to collaborate because I teach Yiddish language and my husband teaches Yiddish literature. We don't have any students who read in Yiddish. When we begin to have students who can read in Yiddish, then the opportunities for collaboration will be much greater.

MC: This is one of the first times we are having the same students in both of our classes

and, in a way, these students are pushing for the collaboration. Out of necessity, our collaboration is based on not stepping on each other's toes. We try to prevent our class times from overlapping so that if there was an emergency with our daughter, one of us would be free to go. At the time being we are content to developing our own portfolios but the opportunity for collaboration is still there.

N-L: Is it ever awkward working together?

MC: You probably know that Gilman is about to close soon for badly needed reasons, like the radiator in this room that is in perennial danger of exploding and the bathrooms that were taken out of the Greyhound bus station. We are going to be sharing an office smaller than the one I have right now for, presumably, the next two years. That might get awkward. We will have to be careful to step on each other's office time.

BC: We have lived in enough small apartments together that we won't be terribly bothered by the change.

Changing demographics to be mirrored at Hopkins

By SARAH GUBARA
For The News-Letter

A coming slump in high school graduates will not hurt Hopkins future classes but will rather improve them with an increase in minority students, according to administrators.

According to a recent study, the 2007-2008 school year will mark a peak in the number of high school graduates, which has grown rapidly to the expected 3.3 million peak since the early 1990s. But by 2022, half of the high school graduates will belong to a minority group.

"The grand sense of character of the student body becoming broader because of a change in vibrancy is the kind of diversity we want to happen," Dean of Admissions John Latting said.

Last week, the University announced a \$5-million initiative to diversify Hopkins's faculty with more minority professors.

Latting said that the admissions office's applicant pool is certainly a snapshot of what is occurring nationally.

He also believes that these demographic changes are ethnically and geographically benefiting Hopkins, because he believes "it's good to not be quite so regionally based in where we get our applicants."

Although Hopkins classes will begin to include more minorities, it is unlikely that they will diversify entirely. Pamela Bennett, professor of sociology, noted some complications in the idea that high school populations and students applying to college will become "a majority of minorities." While highlighting growing "diversity" in the country is useful, the term draws attention away from two important facts.

One, it disregards the racial identity of Latinos, almost half of whom (47.9 percent) identified as "white" in the 2000 Census. Secondly, the largest racial-ethnic group projected to graduate from

high school and seek college admission will remain non-Hispanic whites.

"According to the projections for the 2021-22 school year, non-Hispanic whites will comprise over half of the public high school student population, a figure that does not include students from private schools and those who are home schooled, which the authors rightly note are overwhelmingly white," Bennett said.

Annie Finnigan, public relations representative at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), the group that conducted the study, explained the study gives "state planners an idea of what's coming up."

"What's done with the data is up to the policy makers," she said.

According to Finnigan, it is not the numbers but the face of the graduating class that matters.

According to Bennett this expected growth of minorities in U.S. high schools, and the implications this growth has on the kinds of students who will be applying to college, are the WICHE report's most important findings.

"The implication, here, is that, in the future, colleges will evaluate a multiracial, multi-ethnic pool of applicants to a greater degree than they have in the past," she said.

The report describes primarily a growth in Asian and Hispanic student populations, with very little growth, and, in some cases, projected decline, in the black student population.

"In a sense, this population shift is completely consistent with the waves of immigration," Latting said.

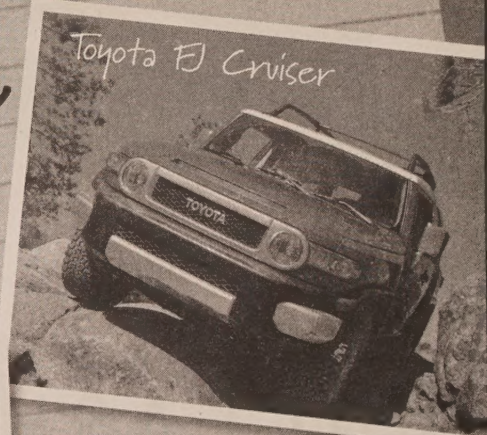
In the past, increases in the black high-school population were accompanied by growths in the numbers of black students applying to college. Bennett believes it is prudent, therefore, to anticipate increases in the number of Asians and Latinos who will seek college admission.

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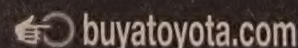
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NEWS & FEATURES

Dozier discusses her time spent in Iraq

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next to targets, now we are the targets." However, foreigners are not the only ones being targeted by insurgents.

"Speaking out on television was enough to get you killed. It still is," Dozier said. Even simply cooperating with Americans can endanger Iraqi lives. "Iraqi colleagues have to lie to their neighbors. They have had close calls and death threats," Dozier said.

She recalled one instance when "there were some very brave guys who insisted on working without masks, and a lot of them are dead." Others from her original crew have "gotten out," moving to neighboring countries like Jordan.

"They were targeted because of what they were reporting," she said, adding, "We are targeted because we represent the ideas the opposition wants to defeat."

Already a target for insurgents in Iraq, Dozier became a magnet to U.S. public opinion after her injury attracted a great amount of media coverage.

"I got slammed by the left and right," Dozier said, recalling the biased media attention that criticized her reporting from Iraq and labeled her everything from "left-wing" to a "Doctor Strange-love-like reporter."

"I reported it all, as I saw it, the good and the bad," Dozier said. She added, "I had been taught ... that you don't express your personal views on air." That, however, did not stop bloggers, talk show hosts and the rest of the media from criticizing her, or prevent her boss from scouring her scripts for traces of opinion.

Dozier, along with the rest of the media, continues to face an

even greater trade-off capturing the attention of a public whose interest in the Iraq war is lagging.

"Simply put, Iraq became something that made people want to change the channel," Dozier said. She later raised the question, "Do you give people what you think they want, or do you give them what they want to hear?"

To encourage the viewing audience to watch through the important news segments, "means occasionally using Britney, if I need to," she joked, referring to troubled pop star Britney Spears.

Dozier shared numerous other challenges to reporting stories from Iraq with the audience.

"There's no such thing as 'off the record' on the phone in Iraq," Dozier said, explaining that all calls she made were recorded. She also had to be available for the *Early Show* every morning, which ran at 7 a.m. in the United States, but inconveniently at 3 p.m. in Baghdad.

"We all learned that our translators would lie to please us," Dozier said. She was able to catch some of these lies by picking up on visual cues and snatches of Arabic phrases.

One problem unique to CBS news correspondents, she told the *News-Letter* after the event, was the "anti-Dan Rather, anti-CBS news bias."

"When Abu Ghraib came out, *60 Minutes* and CBS got the most publicity for doing the torture story," Dozier said. "There were whole Web sites, anti-Dan Rather Web sites."

This bias, coupled with the difficulty of traveling in the

Green Zone, meant that Dozier as a CBS reporter "got turned down for official interview requests so many times, it was hard to work up the energy to keep trying."

Both during and after the speech, Dozier emphasized the importance of journalistic professionalism. Responding to a question regarding troops remaining in Iraq, Dozier simply stated, "for me to pass judgment on whether or not the troops should withdraw, I'll leave that to the political candidates."

Rather than share her own opinions with the audience, she shared the Iraqi opinions that she had personally observed.

"I've had Iraqis tell me, we're not quite ready yet," Dozier said. Others told her, "You made this mess, clean it up."

Dozier's emphasis on unbiased reporting truly impressed members of the audience.

"I thoroughly enjoyed her," Judy Wright, a local resident whose son fought in Iraq, said after the speech. "She maintained her professionalism and did not talk about her own views. She told us what she heard personally from people who lived there, the good and the bad. That's so often what's missed. What we get is a biased viewpoint, but [Dozier] remained professional."

Freshman Jeremy Stein agreed. "She provided what Iraqis thought about the war," he said. "She was as unbiased as possible during her presentation."

"I thought she delivered a personal and moving speech," said Katie Collins, a sophomore and FAS staff member. "Her message was great. It's hard to get an honest journalistic message and hers was important and well-received."

Dozier does not expect to return to Iraq in the near future, she told the *News-Letter*, since "CBS is a little leery of sending me into war zones." Her book detailing her experiences there, *Breathing the Fire: Reporting, and Surviving the War in Iraq*, is due to be released later this month.

Student EMTs save lives a call at a time

By LAURA DINGLE
News-Letter Staff Writer

The petite Kristen Bert is enthusiastic when she talks about her work as an EMT, casually tossing out funny stories of drunken patients and odd 911 calls.

Bert and three of her friends — Molly Ronan, Rob Sickeler and Todd Spock — are all sophomores here at Hopkins, as well as volunteer EMTs at nearby fire stations.

A firehouse crew is like a second family to each of these Hopkins students. They eat and do chores with the firehouse crew as well as depend on each other to finish the job safely. It is a reprieve from Hopkins life for these four; no one at the firehouse is worried about their grades or classes. Instead people of all different ages, education and experiences work together to save lives.

Bert was the first to get involved in the Emergency Medicine scene, and soon got her friends involved as well. "It's really contagious and basically like an addiction. So I got them addicted," Bert said.

Being an EMT requires dealing with high stress situations, as well as a strong stomach. These four students thrive in this unique environment.

"I personally like calls that have a lot of blood and gore. Calls that are traumatic but no one is going to die. Like a car accident where someone has broken their arm or leg; its not like they are going to die from it, but you have to do something fun like a traction splint," Molly Ronan said.

"Cardiac arrests are fun though," Bert said. "You can't mess them up because they are already dead."

Of the four of them, only Todd Spock has seen someone come back from a cardiac arrest. "I had one guy where we got pulse back, but we worked him for 30 minutes before we got it. He was actually walking around in the ICU about two weeks later with a bunch of broken ribs," he said.

The four of them laugh as



Bert's ambulance and engine arrived for a rollover at Lansdowne station 36.

they trade stories about weird calls, completely at ease with the thought of blood and death. Bert says that her first experience with a death on the job was not traumatizing, since it was a woman in an elderly home who suffered from progressed dementia.

"At least for her it was almost better," Bert said.

"There was one where I was up on 695, and there was a guy who ran in front of an SUV going 70 miles an hour. I was brand new and picking up body parts. It makes you have tougher skin," Bert said.

"We are all morbid now," Ronan joked.

All four agree that this exposure to emergency situations is a good entry point for becoming a doctor.

"The four of us are all pre-meds. When you become a doctor, people freak out. It's like 'There is blood and gore and oh my god I lost a patient.' Being an EMT and losing patients gives us an advantage. It's not going to be as traumatic for us when we start," Ronan said.

Spock agreed, saying, "It is quite good preparation for med school because you actually get experience with having patients."

There are downsides though.

"Paperwork has got to be the biggest downside," Spock said.

The EMTs must do detailed paperwork for patients to prevent legal trouble. It is possible to spend half an hour getting a patient to the hospital, only to devote another half an hour or more to filling out the needed paperwork.

Bert disagrees with Spock. She cites her least favorite part of the job as "the people who abuse the system. You get a call from peo-

ple who just need a place to go from the hospital."

Emergency calls can range from true life and death situations to homeless people who are hoping to get a sandwich at the hospital. Many calls come from elderly people who are ill or have fallen.

There can also be extremely rewarding calls. Bert experienced the recovery of an eight-year-old girl from anaphylactic shock.

"We were able to bring her from completely not breathing blue to complete health by the time we got to the hospital," she said.

All four students became involved in different ways. Bert first trained as an EMT in high school and joined a fire station in September of 2006.

Rob Sickeler started his involvement with Outdoor Pursuits through which he took a Wilderness First Responder course.

"I really liked it, so I wanted to go to the next level. I joined a firehouse because that way they paid for my training and it'd give me a chance to practice what I'd learned and use my skills to help people who needed it. I want to be a doctor eventually, but this way I get to help people now as opposed to waiting for years down the road," Sickeler said.

Spock began as a first responder/surf rescue lifeguard in Florida before getting his EMT certification about a year ago.

Ronan just started working at a firehouse in March after getting her EMT certification last August. "I am interested in medicine and I wanted to get first hand experience. I wanted to go on all different types of calls and so I joined a fire department instead of HERO," she said.

Spring Fair scheduled on Jewish holiday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

unavoidable. "This happens about every other year — I think it's frustrating for students, but it's accepted," Heimann said.

According to Heimann, Spring Fair is always difficult to schedule due to the sheer number of University events taking place towards the end of the year; and although Hillel works in conjunction with the Office of the Dean of Student Life to determine the best possible weekend for the event, the unfortunate overlap of Spring Fair and Passover is often impossible to avoid.

"Over the course of four years, at least one if not two Spring Fairs will take place over Passover," Heimann said.

This year Passover was particularly difficult to schedule around given that it will be taking place across two weekends, while normally it falls on only one.

According to Rhyner, the date for Homecoming is set first, and given priority, and then the department attempts to find the best possible date for Spring Fair.

Recently Harvard University took a controversial step to accommodate the religious lifestyles of its students by restricting the use of one of its gyms to women only for six hours a week, after a small group of female Muslim undergraduates approached officials with the idea. This decision — in conjunction with a separate controversy related to the Muslim call to prayer being broadcast across the Harvard campus during Islamic Awareness Week — has resulted in a nationwide discussion of the role of religion in the essentially secular academic world.

The Hopkins recreation center has no intention of following Harvard's example any time soon,

although they have yet to be approached.

Hopkins's Muslim Student Association could not be reached for comment.

Kasey Kimball, a student leader for the Hopkins Christian Fellowship, acknowledged the conflicts between religious holidays and the University calendar could be trying.

"The biggest frustration is probably not being able to go home for Easter," she said.

This year spring break coincided with Holy Week, but in past years this hasn't been the case.

"It's not something I expect the University to work around," Kimball said, acknowledging that a secular institution like a university cannot possibly create its schedule in deference to every religious group represented on campus.

Despite inevitable scheduling hiccups, however, many campus religious representatives agree that Hopkins has an admirable atmosphere of religious acceptance and support.

Kathryn Schnurr, the assistant chaplain at the Interfaith Center on campus, said, "Many people and administrators respect and appreciate religious life on campus — they care for students and understand that healthy religious practice is an important part of a balanced life for many students."

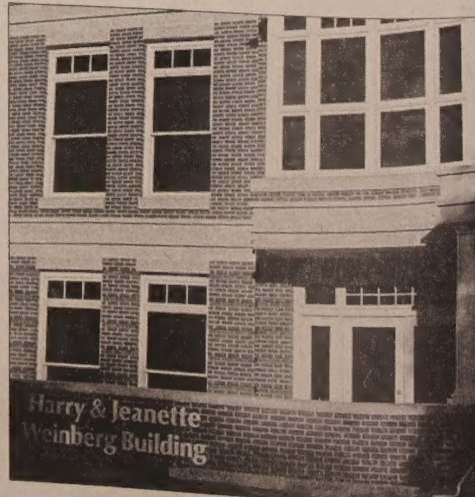
She and Kimball both agreed

that professors are generally willing to work with students when their academic lives come into conflict somehow with their religious lives.

"Academic conflicts can be resolved 95 percent of the time with no trouble," Schnurr said.

Kimball agreed, noting that especially following week-long holidays like Easter, it can be difficult to return to school with a slew of assignments due.

"It's frustrating to have stuff due after, but professors have been good about it," she said.



This year, Spring Fair conflicts with the Jewish holiday Passover.

Shyam Khatau, president of the Hindu Students' Council, said, "Campus Ministries and The Interfaith Center provide an open, understanding environment where we are free to practice our religion, as well as have meaningful discussion with members of other faith groups."

Khatau said that in his experience Hopkins has been an open environment for religious practitioners.



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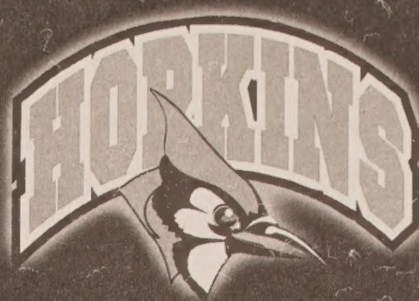
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NEWS & FEATURES

New East Side offers promise, but residents remain concerned about the future

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

In exchange for this disruption, residents want EBDI to heed their concerns as construction moves forward.

"They act like they gave us a life that we did not have. And they didn't give me anything. They gave me an additional burden," said Donald Gresham, president of Save Middle East Action Committee (SMEAC), a grassroots organization dedicated to advocating for the interests of area residents during the redevelopment.

Lisa Francis, a member of the Middle East community affected by redevelopment, said that while the idea of a New East Baltimore seems attractive from the outside, "when you are living in it and you have the experience, it's not nice."

Shannon acknowledged that the construction is disruptive to the Middle East community.

"If there's construction happening in your community, there is an impact on your life. We'll deal with those issues," he said.

"We actually do walk the streets and talk to the neighbors, literally every day... people know we're accessible," EBDI Chief Real Estate Officer Chris Shea said.

Communication efforts have included flyers, mailings, monthly meetings and the efforts of family advocates who are assigned to work with those affected by the construction.

In response to a desire among residents to remain in their homes during the redevelopment, EBDI has committed to a home rehabilitation program.

Beginning in September, the House for a House program will allow residents who relocate to purchase rehabilitated homes within the project area.

But uncertainty still surrounds the issue of resident housing, with many residents feeling uninformed and mistreated.

"[EBDI] decided to do business first, and then address the community," Francis said.

Gresham offered his opinion on cooperation with EBDI on the House for a House program.

"They weren't planning on doing this at all. They weren't thinking about the people here. They had nothing to do with us," he said.

Shannon maintained that the primary goal of redevelopment is to improve the neighborhood, and that improving opportunities for the resident community while including them in the plan-

ning process is a defining aspect of the project.

When compared to other urban renewal projects, "we have the resources to listen to concerns and address them, which is unique," Shannon said.

At a meeting on Monday, SMEAC members expressed concern over the plans for "preservation blocks," certain row homes that will not be demolished because of historical value.

Residents living on the preservation blocks are unsure of what lies ahead for them.

SMEAC Executive Director Nathan Sooy explained that residents want "preservation of choice," but do not feel that EBDI is doing

enough to inform them of their options and to meet their needs.

Shannon said working on how to satisfy the very different constituencies in the neighborhood has been "an

evolving process."

"How can you put people's lives on hold because you're not sure?" said Gavin Johnson, a SMEAC member and preservation block resident.

He said that while "EBDI is doing some wonderful things for East Baltimore," residents are still limited.

Among the present financial options available to preservation block homeowners are \$30,000 forgivable grants to make partial repairs. Residents can also choose to receive around \$153,000 in relocation benefits, identical to those offered to other residents relocated by development.

Those homes that are vacated after relocation of residents will be fully rehabilitated during subsequent phases of construction.

Johnson felt that this does not offer residents much of a choice. He cited specific ongoing problems with the planning of the redevelopment of preservation blocks, particularly in the area four blocks north of the Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The original budget for the area did not afford preservation block homeowners the opportunity to take relocation benefits like their neighbors, according to Johnson.

Although EBDI intends to make this option available to all homeowners in the project footprint, it was not originally part of the plans. As a result, Johnson argued that some residents are now facing an uncertain future.

The relocation option for pres-

ervation block residents was not in the budget because those issues "had not been indicated by the community," Shannon said.

From sentiment expressed at community meetings, EBDI felt that preservation block residents desired to stay in their homes. As a result, other options were not planned and budgeted for.

Shannon said that EBDI is doing its best to respond to the needs of the community, but the non-profit is limited by laws and funding.

Johnson was concerned that lack of budgeting will mean that preservation block residents who want to move out will not be able to do so before home rehabilitation and construction begins.

If that happens, the lives of residents — particularly those of the elderly — will be seriously disrupted, according to Johnson.

"That's not fair. That's not equitable," he said.

According to Johnson, the

problem stems from a lack of communication between EBDI and residents, particularly those living on preservation blocks.

"I've been saying the same thing for over a year. But they kept residents in the dark," he said.

But Shannon hopes that the significant progress EBDI has made in the past five years will soon make an impact in the neighborhood.

Both workforce and senior housing have recently been opened, and EBDI has helped to place members of the Middle East community in full-time jobs.

When it comes to the "difficult and personally painful" implications the project for Middle East Baltimore residents, "there are no easy answers and few possible solutions," Shannon said.

"We wish we could do things more quickly [but] we're doing our best to accommodate the needs of our neighbors," he added.



SHIV GANDHI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At the opening of the John G. Rangos building in Middle East Baltimore, Congressman Elijah Cummings spoke to the resilience of area residents.

Students feel internships deserve more credit

Administrators argue the academic value of internships equals one credit; many students do independent studies instead

By MING WEN
News-Letter Staff Writer

One year after a decision to reduce credits for internships went into effect, frustrated students are finding themselves increasingly likely to do internships for anything but credit.

Hopkins students seeking additional credits for an internship have had to take the alternate route of completing an independent study, which grants them three credits.

"We don't give academic credit for people who do meaningful jobs. We give them for people who do meaningful academic work," Dean of Undergraduate Education Paula Burger said.

In May 2006, a committee appointed by Burger and Vice Dean for Faculty Andrew Douglas decided in favor of a proposal to lower the number of credits awarded for an internship from three to one.

In addition to work hours — which can range from part to full time — students must meet academic requirements by completing coursework equal to one University course.

For many students, compensation does not equal the amount of work they have to put in.

"There's no incentive to do an internship for one credit. I think students would be less inclined to do it. I did a paid internship because there wasn't enough incentive," senior Amanuel Alemu said.

Others are concerned that insufficient credit has been dissuading students from pursuing internships that would have likely contributed to the University, since in order to gain credit, students must work with faculty.

"For students who are discouraged, the cost will not necessarily be to themselves but to the school," senior Paula Vargas said.

But when it comes to awarding credit, administrators stress

that the academic component is the most important factor.

"While we recognize the desire on the part of many students to secure internships... we want to emphasize the importance of granting academic credit only for academic work," wrote members of the Committee on Independent Work (CIW) in their report.

Senior Shane Woolwine felt that this lack of credit completely dissuaded students from taking internships unless they are otherwise compensated.

"I think students are just not even considering it anymore. Before it was being considered; now [when] it's one credit versus pay, obviously you're going to pick pay," he said.

Woolwine added that the possibility of earning three credits would make him strongly consider having an internship.

"The problem is that myself and maybe other students are in a similar situation needing money more than credits," he said.

Additional concerns included students not being properly compensated for the amount of work being done.

"My purpose for being here is to be better suited for the real world. That internship should be worth three or six [credits]," Student Council Vice President for Activities Andrew Gerba said.

"In terms of one academic course that I have taken, I can assure you that I put more energy and learned more from my internship than I drew from any individual class from the University," he added.

Gerba worked nine hours a day for two months in an unpaid internship at International Management Group over the summer.

For his work at the talent agency and production company, he earned one credit.

"You can do the math. That's 40 to 45 hour weeks for 9 weeks, putting close to 400 hours. It

seems a little ludicrous when there are other kids in the same internship getting 9 to 12 credits for the summer," he said.

Burger responded by asserting that the work was not of an academic nature, and that different universities have different policies, some of which are more stringent than the one at Hopkins.

"If he wants, he could go to a faculty member and he could write a paper on how insurance markets are affected by downturn in the economy. You don't get an amount of academic credit for putting in the hours. But there is a way that you could certainly produce something that is credit worthy and capable of being evaluated by a faculty member," Burger said.

The CIW outlined the methodology of awarding credit and recommended they continue the policy that students should not be able to earn more than three credits for research, independent study, or internship credit per semester.

"As a general guideline, independent research should require an investment of 40 hours of work total to be worth one credit. The expectation for an independent study is that the effort expended should be equivalent to what is expected in a traditional course for the same amount of credit" said the Committee's final report.

During the school year, internships must contend with a myriad of other student activities. The University considered and discarded a plan that would allocate credits for an internship based on the amount of hours spent working.

Through Student Council, Gerba proposed a system of hours worked for credits earned, ranging from 40 hours for one credit to 120 or more hours for three credits. The employer would be responsible for keeping track of hours worked.

"Once you get into the school

year, I understand it's a different situation. Maybe a student isn't putting in as much time, but this is the reason for the hour assignments for the credits you receive," Gerba said.

The findings of the CIW acknowledged that through independent study, students can earn both work experience and pay as well as academic credit.

Administrators do not oppose this option so long as only one credit is being awarded for the internship itself, and that students are doing additional academic work to earn up to three credits.

"It is almost impossible to implement an internship policy that prevents students from receiving both pay and credit," curriculum committee member Tyler Krus said.

"The only solution is close relationships between employers and faculty to ensure that internships for credit have sufficient academic merit without pay," he added.

However, students who are not as credit-conscious continue to sign up for internships in the interests of pursuing their academic interests.

Vargas undertook an internship with the Director of Student Health and Wellness last year.

"It was purely out of my academic and research interests. I originally wanted to do an independent study but chose to do an internship instead because despite the credit limit I just really want to pursue this academic interest. It's also an opportunity to pursue work with certain faculty that you wouldn't get to do in class," Vargas said.

"I like the option of having it just because it shows up on your transcript and the fact that you get it graded can show that those who are looking at your transcript how well you are doing what you are doing as opposed to only doing it for money," sophomore Alan Lam said.

CORRECTIONS

In the April 10 issue, on page A1, the caption of the photo which ran with the article "University dedicates \$5 million to diversifying faculty" was incorrect.

Present in the photograph was City Comptroller Joan Pratt, and the event was hosted by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Rho Lambda Leadership Sorority.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

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NEWS & FEATURES

First building opens in Science & Technology Park at Johns Hopkins

Local Middle East Baltimore residents felt left out of the opening celebration last Friday, which was attended by development coordinators, Maryland politicians and Hopkins administrators

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
Group, the developers of the life sciences campus.

But absent from the opening ceremony was Donald Gresham, president of Save Middle East Action Committee (SMEAC). Although he was invited, Gresham did not attend because "I don't want the perception that everything is going well," he said.

Gresham was upset that the invitation-only ceremony was not open to community members, even as developers touted the positive affect development had on their lives.

"Even though we didn't boycott, we think it's a death to this community," Gresham said. SMEAC formally protested at a ceremony marking the halfway point of building construction.

"The relationship between Johns Hopkins Medicine and the East Baltimore Community is a fine one," Johns Hopkins Medicine CEO Edward Miller said.

But some community members are upset that the Rangos building opened before area homes were ready for people to move back in.

Rental units have opened in the area for seniors and members of the workforce, but many of those forced out by demolition

and construction are homeowners who would lose equity.

"We will make sure to build the housing so people will come back to the area," Maryland Senator Barbara Mikulski said.

The East Baltimore native recalled living and working in the area as a social worker, where she saw the drastic difference in quality of life between hospital and surrounding area.

Now, Mikulski said she hopes, "where drugs once killed people, they will be creating drugs to save lives."

An independent study found a majority of residents displaced by construction were happy after the move, and many residents are hopeful about the future of their community.

"It's very nice. They're doing a lot of nice things for East Baltimore," said an East Baltimore resident who lives a block from the Rangos building.

But vocal opponents to the disruption caused by development still remain.

"It's always beautiful for them

to fix up the area, but the construction was a total mess," resident Caroline Hutton said.

Hutton decided to close Happy Days Family Day Care, which she ran out of her house located a block east of the new biotech building. She was concerned that construction on the Rangos building was causing damage to her house.

Concerns with construction are ongoing and are also related to city construction efforts, according to EBDI Director of Communications Helen Szablya.

These issues have been brought to Councilman Warren Branch, representative of the Middle East Baltimore. Branch could not be reached for comment before press time.

In his remarks, Congressman Elijah Cummings passionately lauded sacrifices made by the residents.

"They could have been distrustful, but they worked with us... I hope we have earned it," he said.

Where drugs once killed people, they will be creating drugs to save people.

—BARBARA MIKULSKI, SENATOR



John Rangos, Barbara Mikulski and Martin O'Malley spoke at the opening of the first building in East Baltimore's biotech park.

SHIV GANDHI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Elections results stalled amid disqualifications

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1
voting has begun. Early in the voting period, Presidential candidate Chandrasekhar sent an e-mail to members of his fraternity asking for their votes.

"I did in fact send out an e-mail to my fraternity. I misinterpreted the rules — I told them to vote for me after the appropriate time," Chandrasekhar said.

"There is an investigation into this. It was a violation of campaign rules, and the effect of that on the election will be determined," he added.

Various anonymous sources involved in the election have confirmed that until Chandrasekhar was disqualified, he was winning the election by popular vote.

"This isn't how I wanted the elections to turn out, but I do feel that the explicit nature of [Chandrasekhar's] e-mail was the deciding factor in the elections," Teran said.

Chandrasekhar is currently appealing his disqualification. The results of the appeals process will be announced by Friday, but Chandrasekhar said he does not expect the appeal to change the outcome of the election.

"I didn't decide to appeal because I thought Dan would be a bad president. I'm more than confident that he'd do a good job as president. I decided to appeal simply to see what the results would have been," he said.

Chandrasekhar said that when

he was notified of his disqualification, he considered withdrawing from the race because he had been told that if he lost the race, he would not be able to run for class council.

When he realized that this information was incorrect, he made the decision to stay in the presidential race while he was also collecting signatures to run for a class council position.

Chandrasekhar's e-mail also solicited votes for his vice-

Presidential candidate junior Justine Mink, vice-presidential candidate junior Chris Louie and Mark Zamorski were also cited for failing to turn in their spending reports.

There have also been questions as to whether seniors should have been able to vote in the election. According to CSE chair Tyler Kruse, CSE decided to uphold a "precedent" not to include their votes and informed candidates of this decision before the elections

plans to run for a student class council position if the appeals board rules in favor of another candidate.

According to CSE rules, the Appeals Board is comprised of current Student Council President Bierbryer, the Director of Student Involvement and another member to be announced.

The appeals are done behind closed doors and all their decisions are final.



LAURA BITNER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Junior class president Sonny Chandrasekhar won the popular vote for SGA executive president.

presidential running mate, sophomore David Rokeach, and would also disqualify him from the elections according to CSE rules.

Rokeach was also cited for failure to properly turn in his campaign spending report.

began.

He again reminded candidates that these votes would not count after the elections ended, according to the same anonymous sources.

However, seniors were able to physically log on to the voting system and vote.

Because of this, the senior votes had to be removed by hand after the election period ended.

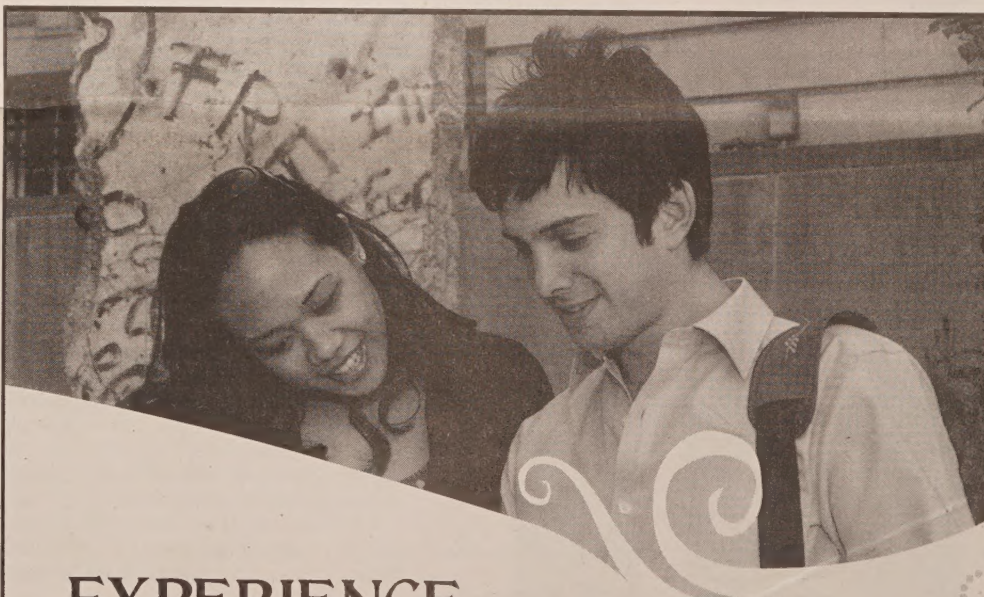
The results of the elections were different before these votes were discounted.

With senior votes and before his disqualification, Rokeach would have won the vice-presidential election. Teran would have lost the popular vote with or without the senior votes, but by a much smaller margin when they were discounted. Teran said that the entire debacle is an embarrassment to the Student Council.

"Rules and procedures are important, and people who can't abide by them shouldn't waste other people's time," he said.

"I hope our students understand the problems that we are going through, and that at end of appeals process, a final decision will be made. Hopefully it will be representative of student vote."

Teran said that he has no



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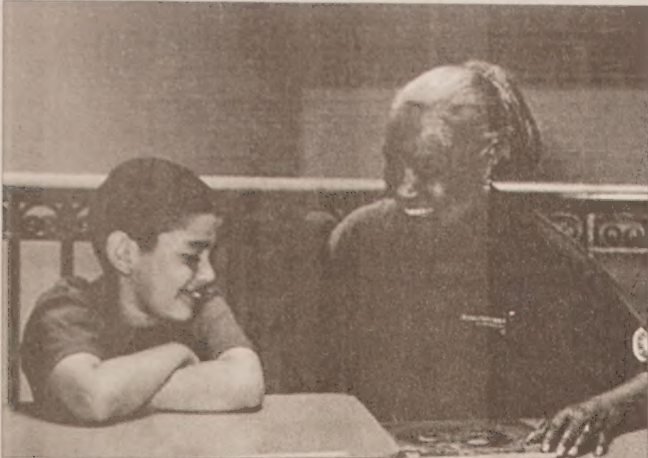
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LAURA BITNER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Junior Justine Mink ran for Executive President, a position currently held by senior Scott Bierbryer.

NEWS & FEATURES

News in Brief



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.EXPERIENCECORPS.ORG](http://WWW.EXPERIENCECORPS.ORG)
An Experience Corps member mentors a student. The program received an award.

Experience Corps
Baltimore
receives Bridge
Builders Award

Last week the Greater Homewood Community Corp. (GHCC) and the Hopkins Center on Aging and Health received the prestigious Bridge Builders Award for their combined efforts to develop Baltimore's model of the national Experience Corps program.

The award was presented in Washington, D.C. by Partners for Livable Communities. The name of the award refers to constructing bridges of understanding and collaboration across social, economic, regional and racial lines for the common goal of improving the community.

With Experience Corps, older adults have the opportunity to become volunteer mentors in schools nationwide.

The Center of Aging's Linda Fried and GHCC's Sylvia McGill joined forces to strengthen the Baltimore branch of the program by adding research and evaluation elements which, in turn, would improve the performance of six neighborhood schools, an important goal of the GHCC.

A five-year pilot program at these schools yielded higher test scores among students and better health and self-esteem for the volunteers. Now, Baltimore's Experience Corps program has been implemented in 20 schools placed more than 375 volunteers.

NAACP calls for
investigation into
sludge from JHU-
associated study

The president of the Maryland chapter of the NAACP has implored the state's attorney general to conduct a criminal and civil rights investigation into a Hopkins-associated study that put sludge in the yards of poor black families to determine its effect on lead in the soil.

Gerald Stansbury, president of the Maryland State Conference of NAACP Branches, wants Attorney General Douglas Gansler to determine whether the participants were fully informed of the risks and what role Hopkins and the Kennedy-Krieger Institute had in the study.

Sludge is a fertilizer created from human and industrial waste products and is commonly used in gardening and agriculture, but

there have been concerns about the material's epidemiological ramifications.

Hopkins and the U.S. Department of Agriculture selected nine low-income Baltimore families for their 2000 study in which sludge was tilled into their yards. The researchers determined that the sludge increased the soil's ability to trap lead and other harmful contaminants, reducing the risk of lead poisoning.

The families consented to having the sludge used in their yards and received food coupons in exchange for their cooperation, but critics believe they were not told of the concerns about health risks of sludge usage. In his letter to the attorney general Stansbury calls for an investigation to determine whether the participants truly gave informed consent.

Faculty nation-
wide voice intent
to use open-
source textbooks

Faculty members all over the United States are supporting an effort to fight high textbook prices. Nearly 1,000 college and university faculty have signed a statement of intent to utilize free, open-source textbooks that are available online whenever it is feasible to do so.

The professors' statement is part of the work being done by the Student Public Interest Research Groups (PIRGs) to reduce the high price students pay for class materials.

In 2005 the Government Accountability Office released a report stating that textbook prices nearly tripled from 1986 to 2004 — a rate far higher than that of inflation. The GAO report blamed supplemental materials like CD-ROMs, which often come package with textbooks today, for the increase.

Additionally the GAO determined that textbooks account for

about one-fourth of the cost of tuition and fees at four-year public institutions.

The Student PIRGs are trying to motivate Congress to take action on the issue. Currently the House of Representatives has a bill in conference committee called the Higher Education Reauthorization Act which would require textbook publishers to release the price, the history of revisions and information about any available lower-cost formats.

The bill would also mandate that textbooks bundled with other materials must also be offered separately and that schools provide a list of required textbooks in registration materials so that students have plenty of time to seek cheaper options.

Threatening
graffiti leads to
campus closure
at Oakland Univ.

Threats found in the form of graffiti last weekend in three restrooms at Michigan's Oakland University led the school to cancel classes, sports and other activities for two days.

The University's police chief told the *Detroit Free Press* that the messages intimated attacks on the campus on "4/14." He went on to say that the threats did not target a specific person and that officials believe the same person is responsible for all three messages.

Classes and activities were cancelled for Sunday and Monday, and students living on-campus were encouraged to go home. Oakland is a public university of 18,000 students in Rochester, Mich.

Similar threatening messages were found twice this month at Chicago's St. Xavier University. These threats also contained the date April 14.

In response to the threats school officials closed the University "indefinitely," according to the school's Web site. All students

were told to leave its campuses in Chicago and nearby Orland Park, Ill. by noon last Saturday, April 12.

On Tuesday University President Judith Dwyer announced that St. Xavier campuses will reopen this week, as an investigation into the threats determined that the campus is safe for students, faculty and staff.

St. Xavier, a Catholic university with an enrollment of 5,700 students, is less than 100 miles from Northern Illinois University, where a gunman opened fire in a lecture hall on Feb. 14, killing five people and wounding 18 others.

NYU Med. center
receives \$100-
million from its
chairman

New York University Medi-

cal Center's current chairman of the board of trustees will donate \$100-million dollars to the school.

Kenneth Langone, a businessman who previously donated another \$100-million anonymously in 1999, put no restrictions on his gift. The Medical Center will be able to use the money however it likes.

NYU hopes to use the money to help pay for a \$1-billion hospital pavilion connecting its School of Medicine, the Tisch Hospital, the Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, and the Hospital for Joint Diseases.

Wednesday, the university renamed the Medical Center to the NYU Elaine A. and Kenneth G. Langone Medical Center, in honor of the benefactor and his wife.

Langone's combined \$200-million gift is the largest the medical center has ever received.

—All briefs by Alex Vockroth

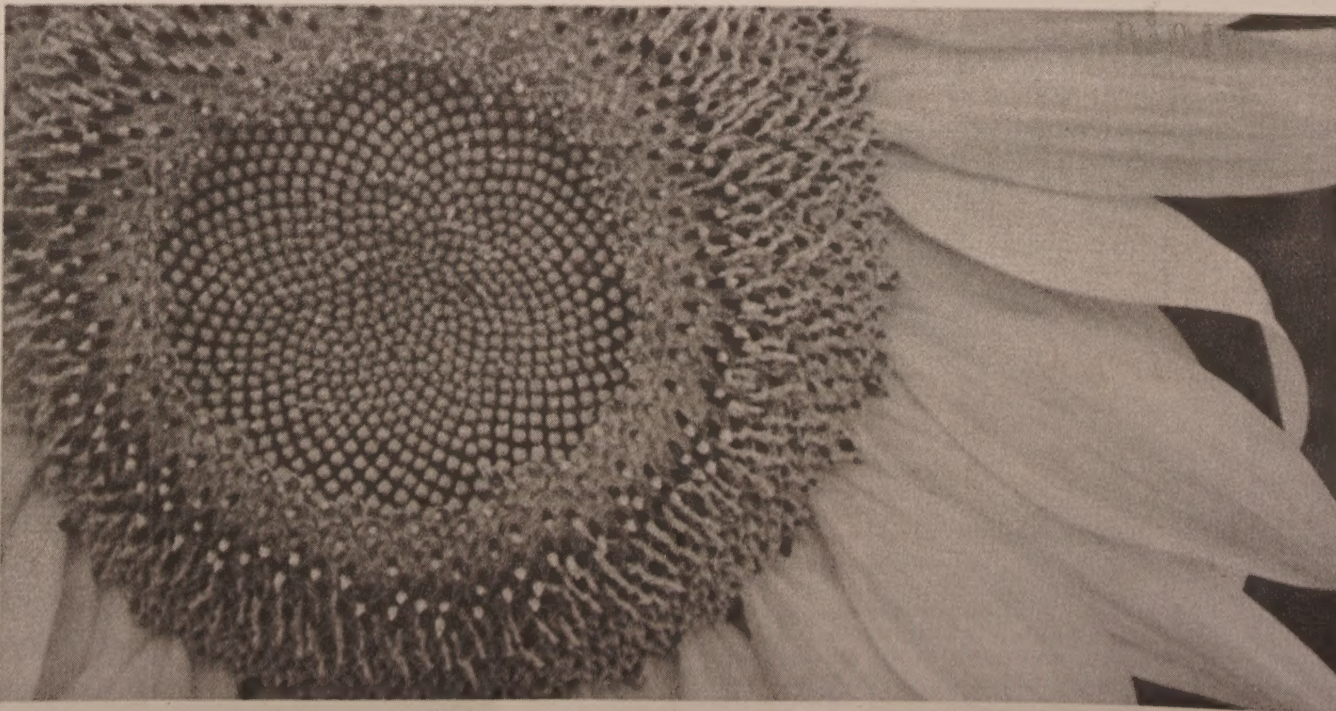


[HTTP://WWW.ENG.UMD.UMICH.EDU](http://WWW.ENG.UMD.UMICH.EDU)
Threatening graffiti was found in a restroom on the Oakland University campus.

did you know...

That the
Fresh Food Café
is a
trans-fat
free facility?

- We use non-saturated vegetable oils.



Toning your body and staying fit every day

With a college lifestyle that can be stressful, scary, fun and exciting, it can be difficult to squeeze in time for exercise and sound eating habits.

Even when you have time, there are so many crazy fads, weird exercises and extreme diets to choose from. So what do you do?

As a personal trainer and a 24/7 health nut, I receive a lot of fitness questions. I've selected a few to answer for you.

Q: I do crunches every day, but I still don't have a six-pack! Why is that?

A: Ah, yes the desired six-pack. Crunches alone will not give you chiseled abs. Sadly, a six-pack takes a lot more.

Defined abdominals are like any other muscle and require low levels of body fat in order to be seen. Therefore, your diet plays a huge role in muscle definition.

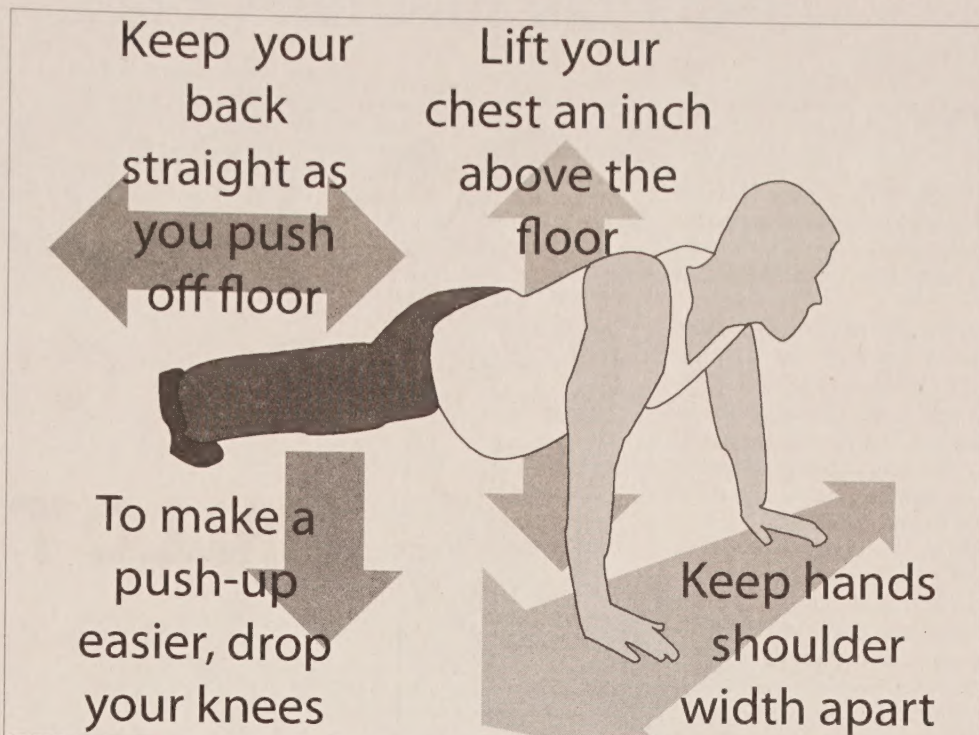
Another factor that can limit you from getting a six-pack is genetics. Everyone stores fat in some areas more than others, so defined abs can be hard to obtain if your middle is your main problem area.

Exercises should be done to target each section of the abdominal muscles. If you always do regular floor crunches, your body has probably adapted, so try mixing it up. Do resisted crunches and leg raises, or use medicine balls to target your core.

Alternate between increasing reps on some days and increasing weight on others while maintaining proper form. This will help switch it up; variety is vital in gaining strength and muscle definition.

Q: What's the best thing to eat before working out or a game?

A: "You have to eat well to perform well." The biggest mistake that most athletes make is only eating well the day before and/or the day of a game if at all. While eating a Power Bar and chugging down a Gatorade two hours before a competition may give you energy for the time being, it's not beneficial in the long run if your overall nutrition suffers most of the time.



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Think about that old saying "practice like you're competing and compete like you practice." Shouldn't you fuel your body properly to have better workouts, which leads to greater improvements and gains, which leads to better performance in the game?

The best thing to do is to get in the habit of eating a well-balanced diet all the time, which should consist of complex carbohydrates, lean protein, lots of vegetables and fruit and drinking plenty of water. You don't want to try anything new before you compete, because you don't want to have

an upset stomach, so if you are planning on using muscle gels and nutrition bars during competition, practice using them in your workouts beforehand.

Everyone is different, some people can't eat three hours before a game, and others have to eat at least 60 minutes prior. Find what works for you. If you have an afternoon game, always start the day off with a good breakfast to kick your metabolism into gear. Try foods that are going to provide lasting energy so you don't suffer from insulin spikes and energy drops. Avoid sugary cereals, too much caffeine and simple carbohydrates like white bread that

will burn up quickly and leave you feeling hungry soon after.

Drink water throughout the day. Before an intense exercise session or game drink at least 8 to 16 oz. of water and then sip water or an electrolyte-enhanced drink every 15 minutes.

Depending on your needs, try to eat something one to two hours before that will supply you with energy and can be digested quickly like a piece of fruit, dry cereal or a sports drink. Carbohydrates can give your body immediate energy, but your body can only digest about 40 to 60 grams of carbohydrates each hour. Be careful not to overdo it before a competition or you'll be looking for a bathroom!

Q: What's the proper way to do a push up?

A: The basic push up is a great exercise; all you need in order to work your chest, shoulders, core, and triceps is you! In order to complete a full push up find a stable surface. Lie chest down with your chin to the floor and in line with your spine, have the palms of your hands flat on floor at shoulder level slightly more than shoulder width apart. Keep your back straight as you push yourself off the floor with straight arms (don't lock out at the joints), bend your arms and lower yourself back to the floor while your body remains flat. Let your chest come an inch above the floor or touch the floor, pause for a second and repeat.

To modify a push up and make it easier, you can drop to your knees and perform the exercise. To make it more difficult, you can

increase the time of a repetition by increasing the length of the pause at the positive and negative phase of the exercise and moving more slowly throughout the entire movement.

Q: I know breakfast is important, but I'm never hungry in the morning, what should I do?

A: They don't call breakfast the most important meal of the day for nothing. You are literally breaking the fast your body encountered while you were sleeping. Eating breakfast kickstarts your metabolism and can help

Eating breakfast kickstarts your metabolism and can help control your appetite throughout the day.

control your appetite throughout the day. If you wait too long to have your first meal, your blood sugar levels will drop, causing you to crave higher-calorie and higher-

sugar foods, and causing you to overeat when you finally do have a meal.

The truth is, our bodies like to do the same thing all the time; if you never eat breakfast in the morning your body will become accustomed to it. The best thing to do is to train your body to eat in the morning and eat small frequent meals throughout the day. This isn't always so easy. Try eating something small like a piece of fruit or yogurt. If you absolutely can't look at food in the morning, try to drink a glass of milk or juice. The calories in beverages will have the same effect on your metabolism as food.

Fitness questions? E-mail them to kellygonzalez9@mac.com.

High SAT scores alone can't buy you love

There's an assumption that Hopkins students are sexual elitists. They feel they deserve the most attractive members of their desired sex, often aiming for people who are considerably out of their league.

This often leads to the assumption that Towson and Loyola students are more desirable, because they are generally more attractive as a population.

Sure, Hopkins has some academic elitism, and it's often well deserved. But I find little evidence that Hopkins students are any pickier than other college coeds.

You hear these complaints at parties where beer goggles aren't enough. You hear them on the Beach where shirtless Frisbee just isn't helping. You even hear it in Einstein's the morning after.

Why do we think we deserve better? Is it because our mothers have been telling us we're special for so long that we've started to believe them? Maybe, maybe. But here are some better ones.

It might correlate to the 53:47 gender ratio. Are girls treated more respectfully and more like prized jewels than they would be at other universities because there are fewer of them at Hopkins?

I don't find that to be the case. Hopkins guys here have as diverse attitudes towards women as male students at any other college — ranging from really ignorant and degrading to gentlemanly and respectful. Hopkins men don't seem concerned by the ratios.

Sophomore Amanda Kirkhart feels that all too often guys have "egos the size of elephants because of what school they got in to ... They assume that girls here will find that attractive even if they're not."

While this sense of accomplishment is likely deserved, it can seriously taint both romantic relationships and other social encounters.

One senior says that "most Hopkins students, both guys and girls, attach their hard work and success in the classroom with deserved success outside of them."

This does not necessarily correlate to becoming a magnet for large hordes of people pining for your well-read body.

Another serious concern is the "D-level syndrome," which is not related to the D-level challenge at all. This is the condition where students spend too much time working in labs and the library and forget how to interact with people. They enter a social situation armed with their recent curve-setting grade and expect to be lauded and fondled.

Sadly, biochem pillow talk is only amusing for a little while, and it has to be followed with some physical interaction. This "syndrome" is what worries me most on this campus, that people really do lose touch with social realities.

Why were there so many drunk girls on Saturday? Because Hopkins destroyed Maryland.

If you don't know that, you can't celebrate properly, and your one-night stand chances decrease sharply.

A related problem is the *Beauty and the Geek* syndrome. Sophomore Zainab Ne-jati describes it as "the whole idea of rich and successful men having supermodels as arm candy regardless of how ugly and socially inept they are."

I have only seen this backfire. Either the relationship is already established from high school, or the guy gets turned down in a big way. If you have a romantic success story for this one, let me know. I'm actually really curious.

One crucial fact is that both genders on this campus have the same right to selectivity. The guys have every right to seek attractive and intelligent gene pools, but the girls are also allowed to turn down lopsided offers.

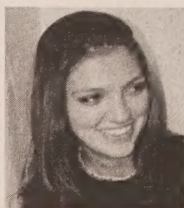
The girls here are just as smart and just as attractive, and as sophomore Sarah Sanchez said, they "don't need to settle for your ugly ass."

It's important to remember that when it comes to different cultures and lifestyles, Hopkins has a very diverse student base. It may not be an undeserved self-righteousness that caused you to get turned down — it might be a personal preference or religious affiliation.

The best thing to do is try not to be egotistical while remaining confident.

Please send your questions to grace.henry@jhunewsletter.com.

Grace Gwendolyn Henry
That's What She Said



Are you:

- young
- sexy
- male
- willing to write?

Apply to be our
male
sex columnist

E-mail: News@jhunewsletter.com

Taking it a step beyond the D-Level Challenge

Our guest columnist runs down his list of the most scandalous on-campus spots to get down and dirty in public

All this talk about sex probably has the same effect it does on you as it does on me. It makes me horny. And you know what? I want it. Right here, right now. And I know you do, too. What is that? We are in Fresh Food Café? Well, maybe not right here. But that is why good old PierceD is going to provide you with a list of cool places to do it in public on your own campus.

Sure there is the D-Level Challenge, but what if we are like me, (and I know I am) and we are looking for something else as well? Only so many times you can screw next to a crappy book like *Turn Of The Screw* or *Mrs Dalloway*. So here goes; let us start with the obvious:

The Beach: Go out for a walk, set up a picnic or save the food for later and just bring the Franzia. Gaze at the stars (take a New Yorker for this one; (s)he will appreciate them all the more), and have your own supernova. And they say stars have all the fun...

CollegeTown Shuttle: Ever do it on a train? This is the college version. And we all know how that movie ended... It ended

well.

Garden Bed Of Statues: The place between Bloomberg and Fresh Food Café? Know what I mean. Lay your significant other on a favorite flower, then lay your significant other on a favorite flower. Cannot go wrong there.

Lobby Of Most Any Building, Dorm In Particular: I am thinking more Wolman, because that is where I live, but I imagine most lobbies will do. Seen one, you seen them all, am I right?

AMR Trees: Yes sir. Get back to your roots, and make sweet love the ancestral way. In a tree. Why the trees in the AMR courtyards? Carries an extra sort of oomph, do you not think? Potential hazards: Do not lose so much control doing your O-thing that you let go. Of anything, really. Not in good conduct.

Your Resident Advisor's Bed: This is gold, right here, folks. You will go down in history just by going down on your partner. I am still trying to decide if this is a greater accomplishment with your Resident Advisor or with

someone else. Better go for broke, and do it with both. Of course, if your Resident Advisor is not of the preferred gender, you will have decisions to make.

Those Balconies Too Small For Anything Else: You can find them looking at buildings from Shriver Quadrangle. I am not really sure where else they are, but they must be around. Point

is, once you see them, you can recognize that the only things that would fit up there are two pairs of feet (maybe three), and it is your duty to put them there.

Bell Tower: There are two levels here. Level One is in a room actually enclosing you on all sides. Level Two is the area actually occupied by the bell.

Potential Hazard: Make sure to do this when the bell is not going to sound. The only time extra points are earned from public sex injury is when the injury is earned running away from security, after completion. Though if the bell sounds during Level One Sex, this is extra points.

The Grate Next To The Volleyball Net: A little grimy? Maybe. Just do not touch the walls (extra points for that), and you will be all right. To clarify, we are talking about that grate you have to lift and walk down some stairs to get to a locked door. For that matter:

Behind The Locked Door: What lies beyond? Rumors of the underground tunnels. Extra points for whoopee made in any place that is supposed to get you expelled solely for being there at all.

The President's House. Never actually seen or been anywhere near this one myself, but the thought just occurred to me. And me? I love sticking it to the man, especially if it means sticking it to a woman. I hear even the area around it is nice. The house, not the woman.

That just about fills my word minimum. Let me know if you think of any others; I love good ideas. And also, construction sites are always good, but note that they change. I was going to say the scaffolding around the boat house in Freshman Quadrangle, but they took it down before I started writing this article. Just tally your points.

Pierce Delahunt
Guest Column

THE JOHNS HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIAL

Electoral debacle

In our endorsements for the Student Government Association Executive Board, this page pointed out that we were significantly impressed with all of the candidates running for president. We entered this election with hope and optimism for the SGA's future. Sadly, it took less than a week for them to disappoint us.

The debacle that was the SGA elections and the ensuing controversy have eroded the trust we so idealistically placed in the Student Council. The fact that the candidates running for office failed to follow the simple rules of the elections is discouraging.

Our positive impression of them was undermined by their unprofessional manner during the election process. Candidates should know about the rules of the elections they are participating in beforehand and then follow them thoroughly. If they fail to follow the rules when running for office, the student body can not expect them to govern effectively and properly when in office.

Candidates may disagree with the rules, but they must abide by them if they wish to be representatives of the student body. By failing to do so, they have done the student body a great disservice.

Pending appeals, junior class president Sonny Chandrasekhar was disqualified for sending out an e-mail during the election period. Vice President for Student Life Justine Mink was disqualified for not reporting her campaign finances, along with four other candidates who did the same thing. This means that freshman class president Dan Teran and sophomore senator Evan Lazerowitz are the only candidates left to ascend to the presidency and vice-presidency. Teran and Lazerowitz are competent and visionary candidates, but victory by default is the worst way to win.

More candidates were disqualified than were left in the race. These disqualifications, though perhaps necessary, dealt an injurious blow to our student democracy. Students will now be represented by a president who did not win the popular vote.

The SGA's leaders should be elected through a vigorous and competitive election process. Part of the responsibility for providing such an election goes to the candidates, but the larger part goes to the Committee on Student Elections. The electoral process was run poorly and the rules were ambiguous at best. The candidates cannot be completely

faulted for their failure to comply with the electoral laws. These rules are a bureaucratic minefield and democracies can not properly function if their elections are as chaotic as this year.

Some of the rules also strike us as potentially unfair. David Rokeach, for example, was disqualified from the race for vice president because Chandrasekhar mentioned his name in an e-mail during the elections. CSE interpreted this as campaigning, which is forbidden during voting and disqualified Rokeach. That strikes us as absurd.

Other procedures are confusing and inconsistent. The CSE decided that seniors could not vote in the election. This law makes sense. These elections are intended to choose representatives for next year's student body, of whom seniors will not be a part. And yet, due to technical irregularities, seniors were allowed to vote, and their votes were counted. In fact, their votes made a difference: Rokeach won the vice presidency based only on the strength of the senior vote, and once senior votes were removed, Lazerowitz became the winner.

The CSE needs to consider serious electoral reform in order to amend and streamline the rules on campaigning. These rules need to be clear and articulated openly to the candidates and the student body.

After the appeals process is completed, this election debacle will leave a difficult challenge for the elected leaders who will take the reigns of the SGA. They will have to restore trust among students that their government will be able to represent them effectively. The students deserve more than what they got. Elections must proceed professionally, and governance must work effectively.

The best way now for elected leaders, whoever they may be, to restore confidence in the SGA is to articulate clear and ambitious policy goals and to work tirelessly to achieve them. Even that may not be enough to undo the sweeping damage done to the student government's reputation. These elections served only to reinforce the perception — one that student representatives have fought so hard to change — that the student council is a bumbling, ineffective bureaucracy.

The new leaders of the SGA will have to work hard to prove that this is the final fumble by a clunky and ineffective Student Council. They will not have regained our trust until they do.

Participants not subjects

Everyone who's anyone in Maryland politics was at the opening of the John G. Rangos building in East Baltimore Friday night: Gov. Martin O'Malley, Sen. Barbara Mikulski and Rep. Elijah Cummings, among others. University President William Brody was also there, and so was Edward Miller, CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine.

There were hours of speeches filled with far-reaching pronouncements and plenty of wide-eyed hauteur about the future of Middle East Baltimore.

Sadly, there was one group missing from the spectacle: the residents.

It was emblematic of a broader socioeconomic rift that exists between the powers that be and the residents on the ground.

The developers behind the Middle East revitalization project, as they call it, have no idea what it's like to live in East Baltimore, and yet they feel perfectly equipped to make wide-ranging prescriptions for what ails the neighborhood. As Donald Gresham, the director of the Save Middle East Action Committee (SMEAC), put it, "they act like they gave us a life that we did not have."

The event Friday night served only to reinforce that perception. Powerful people in suits, making sweeping political pronouncements about what's best for a neighborhood they know almost nothing about, got together to congratulate each other. And they left the residents out.

As both sides admitted, there is a communication problem. No one disagrees that what East Baltimore Development, Inc. (EBDI) is doing will have far-reaching social and political benefits or that revitalization is a commercially driven process. But the developers behind EBDI — the powerful people — must make the residents feel as though they have ownership in the revitalization process. They must make the residents participants, not merely subjects, in their grand plans.

The proper state of mind

A year has passed since the tragic events at Virginia Tech., where a student's mental disorder went unnoticed and untreated, leading to tragic results. For many students with mental health problems, remaining emotionally healthy can be a challenge.

Thankfully there are a plethora of outlets for students to seek the help they need. There is the official Counseling Center, as well as student-run organizations such as the peer listening group A Place to Talk; Active Minds, an organization that educates students on mental health issues; and SARU, the Sexual Assault Response Unit.

The mental health professionals on campus point towards a significant challenge in addressing the mental health of students (as well as society as a whole): the stigma attached to seeking help.

Students should not be ashamed to seek as-

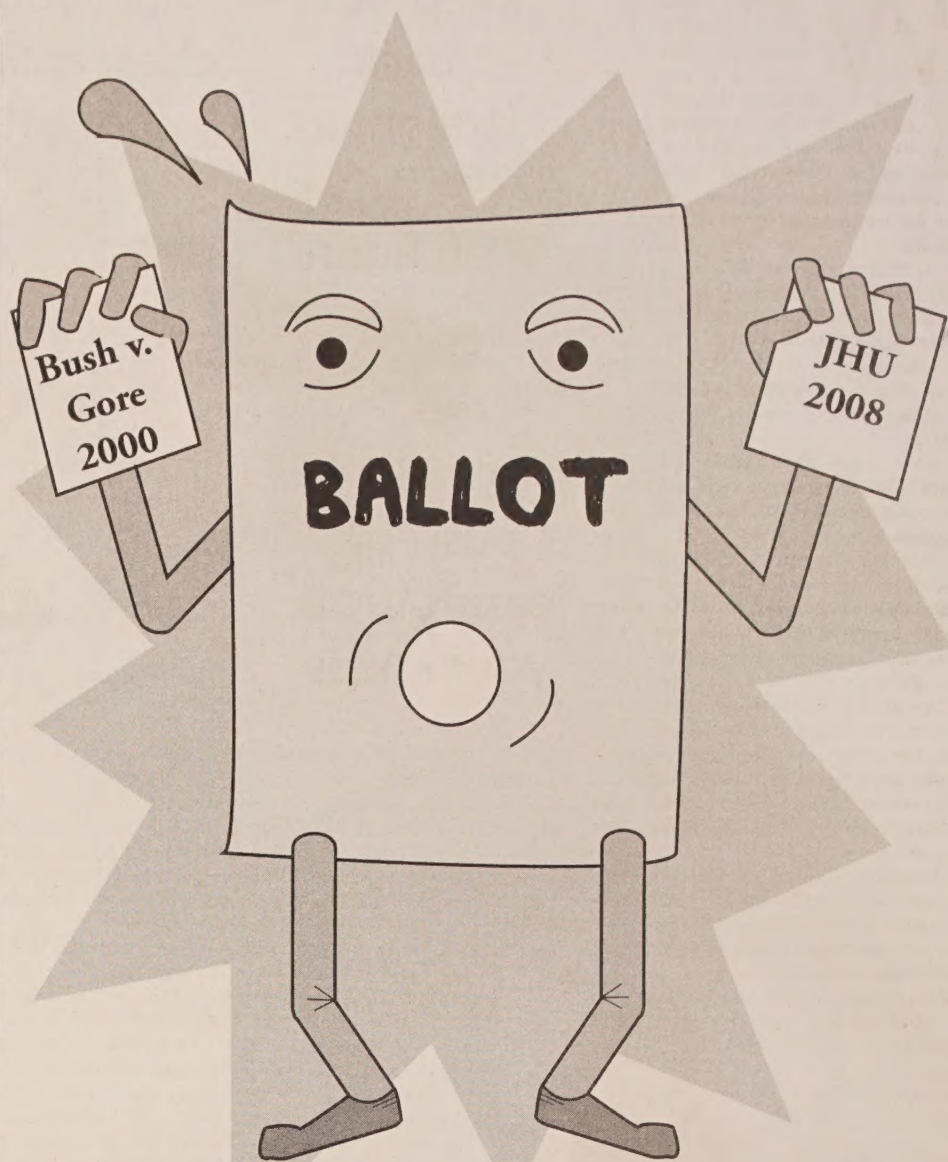
sistance with their emotional or mental difficulties or feel that they are weak for doing so. Dr. Michael Mond, director of the Hopkins Counseling Center, put it succinctly when he said that "people who use our services are wise," rather than weak.

Just as we cannot be afraid of seeking help for ourselves, we cannot be afraid to help others, either. If we are concerned about our peers, we must encourage them to seek help.

Yet this is an issue of import even to those who feel emotionally healthy and secure. None of us are immune to the possibility of depression and other mental health issues.

For this reason, the elimination of the stigma surrounding mental health counseling must involve everyone. Through education and outreach, we can help ensure a more healthy and livable environment for all.

Matt Hansen



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The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or e-mailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

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NEWS-LETTER

The Gatehouse

(on the corner of N. Charles Street
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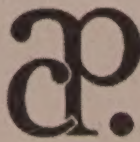
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OPINIONS

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The interfaith movement

By FARAH QURESHI

In his 2007 book *Acts of Faith*, Eboo Patel makes the case that the 21st century will be shaped by what he calls “the question of the faith line.” The concept is simple: Unbeknownst to us, there exists a line that divides society into two groups: religious totalitarians and religious pluralists. Religious totalitarians essentially seek uniformity of thought and belief. It’s their way or the highway: the highway of course being conversion, condemnation or, in extreme circumstances, death. Terrorist organizations today fall under such a category.

Pluralists, on the other hand, believe that people of all faiths need to find a way to live together in union, but made up of unique communities, each making their own positive contributions towards a common good that benefits everyone. As Americans, we are lucky enough to live in a society where (at least theoretically) this is a guiding principle of our social interactions. Though we don’t always live up to this ideal, we must always strive for it, because now more than ever, we cannot afford to give up.

Terrorism isn’t born from a single faith nor does it pop into people’s minds of its own accord. It’s nurtured by religious totalitarians who understand that society is divided in this way and realize that the only way their ideology can thrive is if they plant it firmly in ignorance and bigotry. They want a polarized society whose differences are simply too much to ever overcome. Patel, however, argues that if the voices of religious pluralists are loud enough and strong enough, we can make it resoundingly clear that in this diverse world in which we live, to-

talitarianism is not an option.

The youth voice has always had a powerful role in this country, and we cannot let that legacy end now. We have a duty to do everything we can to fix what those before us have broken. Luckily, we are blessed with the unyielding hope and drive, and yes, even naiveté of youth, and as we move forward into the next stages of our lives, we must constantly ask ourselves what we can do not only to resolve the effects of this problem, but to address its cause directly.

Well, our options are pretty clear. We can sit idly and watch as totalitarians dominate the global religious forum. Listen as they tell us that the question

is clear and there is only one right answer: theirs. Swing our fists at phantom foes when they pose threats to our way of life, constantly missing until the only options we have left are bombs and guns and ammunition.

There is another option. We can stand up and fight the intellectual battle that so many say is impossible and show these people that life isn’t so cut and dry. That if we want to make this world a better place — a *safer* place — for our children and our children’s children, we must value each other as human beings not in spite of our differences, but *because* we are different. We must understand that we have common values and common aspirations

and we can only succeed if we reach for them together. The world will never be a homogenous place, there will always be diversity, and yet we will all always occupy this same land, this same planet. What other option do we have *but* to get along?

Believe me, I know what this must sound like: lofty rhetoric and blind idealism. You’re probably thinking it’s a lot easier said than done and if this has been an issue that’s plagued humanity for thousands of years, how can *we* expect to be the ones to fix it? The honest answer is that we probably can’t. But that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t try. The most important social movements in our history started from the bottom up and beat insurmountable odds.

This is the heart of the interfaith movement.

Interfaith is a movement. It is one growing on the grassroots level, slowly making its way into our everyday lives. The Interfaith Center on Charles Street is so much more than a place where you go to religious services, get free ice cream or have cram sessions the night before exams. It is one of many places across this country where this movement was born, it’s where hospitality, compassion and hope for a better tomorrow thrive, and where young people are taking a stand for what we want our future to look like.

What have I learned in my time at the Interfaith Center these past four years? That everything I’ve mentioned here isn’t just lofty rhetoric and blind idealism; it’s a reality.



LAUREN SCHWARTZMANN/GRAPHICS STAFF

Farah Qureshi is a Writing Seminars major from Hunt Valley, Md. She is a Fellow for the Interfaith Youth Core.

Their blood will be on our hands

By DYLAN DIGGS

The idea that there has been no political progress in Iraq is a complete myth. Iraq has come a long way since the chaos of 2006; the surge has fundamentally contributed to this turn-around. I don’t want to paint too rosy of a picture of the situation in Iraq. When I speak of progress, I mean from the precipice of hell. Make no mistake, that’s where Iraq was going in 2006.

Prime Minister Maliki’s nascent government was on the verge of losing complete control and the country was experiencing ethnic cleansing of horrific levels. Fifteen months ago, President Bush came to a decision to deal with an Iraq at the precipice. Instead of pulling out and allowing the Iraqis to enter a living hell, he chose to strengthen U.S. troop presence there. This increase in troop levels became known as the surge and Gen. David Petraeus was put into the position to implement his counter-terrorism strategy of ensuring security, alienating insurgent groups and finding political conciliation.

It might behoove Americans to take this moment, to reestablish a vision for our reconstruction plans in Iraq, a vision, once filled with idealism of democracy, which has largely been lost for the sake of winning the war. Our goal in Iraq cannot be democracy. Establishing the embryo of democracy can be part of our goal, but that task in the end will be up to the Iraq-

is. It is impossible to force a democracy on a society: Democracy is about choosing one’s leaders and it’s impossible to force free choice. Also, democracy will be a task in Iraq long after America’s aggressive presence in the region is gone.

Rather, America must focus its goal to establish Iraq as a new pillar of American interests in the region. In the 1970s we had three pillars in the Middle East. These were the Shah’s Iran, Saudi Arabia and Israel, all close American allies and all hated by Arabs and Persians in the region.

Today, we have the potential of building up two potential new pillars in the Middle East: Iraq and Turkey. Of those two, Iraq has a unique potential as an oil state, a gulf state and an Arab state to be a key ally: our conduit to the Arabian Middle-East. This will require a transformation in Iraq, one that has only begun. Since we broke the dysfunctional Iraqi Ba’athist state, we will be a big part of this.

First in importance is security. It is true. There is no military solution to Iraq. However the military must be part of the equation. With our military as partners with the Iraqi Security Forces, some level of security and freedom from groups like Al-Qaeda can be established. Individuals will be less willing to retreat into sectarian and tribal corners as the threat of death decreases.

For security there have been three critical moments of progress. One was when the Sunni-Arabs in the Anbar province, a former Al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI) safe

haven, broke with AQI and allied itself with the United States and Iraqi forces. The other moment was this year when Maliki’s government was willing to attack the Mahdi Army of Moqtada al-Sadr in Basra and all across the country. Earlier in his administration, Maliki was afraid to say anything bad about Sadr, given his influence in Shi’a circles, which is also Maliki’s base. A few weeks ago Maliki personally oversaw the clashes in Basra. The operation showed that Maliki was willing to take a stand against this militia that once threatened to tear the country apart along sectarian lines.

Another important development is in Iraq’s economy. Iraq’s GDP is on track to grow more than 7 percent this year. That is significant as oil revenues start to come into the government. Unemployment, regional distribution and human development need to be worked on, but if Iraq can sustain economic growth, that will mean a lot for the stability of the country. Even bad governments stay in power when the economy is good: look at Iraq in the 1970s when it enjoyed huge windfall profits from oil. The country had true potential then.

Finally, there is grassroots reconciliation. Societal reconciliation is more important than anything on paper. Iraqis in Anbar, Basra, Baghdad and Kirkuk are willing to double down and commit to this government offering a future, rather than these organizations that offer chaos, because we are doubling down and show-

ing that we will not give up on them.

We give up on our allies a lot. It has truly hurt our legitimacy from Cambodia, to Iraq to Somalia, our word for decades has proven to mean nothing. We abandoned our Cambodian allies after Vietnam, allowing the Khmer Rouge to commit the violent autogenocide in that country. After the Persian Gulf War we called for the Shi’a Arabs and Kurds to overthrow Saddam Hussein; they came very close, taking almost every province but Baghdad, but then we told Hussein that it would be fine for them to use helicopters: the Ba’ath party put out that fire quickly. In Somalia with our peacekeeping troops there, once the peace turned violent on us, we ran.

How can Taiwan, India or Japan trust us to deter China, or can the eastern European nations we’re courting expect American resolve to be enough to stand firm against Russia?

If we are to leave Iraq now and allow it to fall much farther into chaos and genocide, this country of mothers and daughters, fathers and sons will be left to slaughter. That blood will be on our hands, because we were unwilling to fix what we have broken. And also, that memory will stick with people across the globe: Never trust the Americans again.

Dylan Diggs is a senior political science major from Mount Airy, Md. and the News-Letter Opinions Editor.

Michael Berman

The white rug of silence

Two weeks ago, readers of this page found, in the stead of the usual smattering of political manifestos and campus diatribes — of which this author has contributed his fair share — a series of columns discussing issues of race and diversity, issues all too often left untouched due to their monumental baggage. It is this unwillingness to confront issues of race that I would like to address as I provide my contribution to the discussion.

It often seems like the only way to begin such a discourse, rather than to state a thesis, is to tell what most establishes one’s perspective on the matter. So, let’s get that over with: I’m a white kid from a bleached-white suburban town in northern New Jersey.

Upon leaving that protective sphere of homogeneity and entering a more representative portion of the world, it became pretty clear that things weren’t as simple as they had been back home, and my views on race and class would need some revision. Needless to say, a

few years of riding around on the Baltimore City bus and working at restaurants in the Inner Harbor helped to force what would have probably otherwise been an uncomfortable transition.

Of that which has become clear to me during this transition, one thing stands out above all: By and large, white people don’t know how to deal with race.

Now, when it comes to race, most whites want one thing. They want to be absolved of the sin of slavery. This is a pretty tall order, but it’s what they [we] want. And I believe there is a true, sincere remorse for the past, though not the ability to articulate it properly.

In exchange for this grand pardon, white people were, and are, willing to do what they conceive to be a lot. I believe whites would do almost anything if they knew it would lead to this end. In the past, some whites have pointed to examples like affirmative action, the Civil Rights Act or some of the other white political or social involvements in the civil rights movement as acts of contrition.

In the face of no easy path towards their goal, I think many white people have tried to delude themselves with thoughts that these efforts will be all that are necessary, that reconciliation

can come on the cheap. Well, if the developmental bubble in which I was reared, or our dearly departed housing bubble, can tell us anything, it’s that no delusion, however blissful, can last forever; eventually it will burst.

The fact is the dignity of a people cannot be bought for a few trifles or mere contrivances; it must be earned through a true offering of respect. The problem is that the language and the forum do not exist for this exchange to take place. They have yet to be discovered. In their absence we are left with the awkward, untenable status quo of our modern society. Thus, as it stands, whites have no foreseeable way of obtaining their desired absolution.

So, what do we do when we try for a goal and cannot find the path to take us there? We can keep trying to find it or we can form a new strategy to get us where we want to be.

Or we can just ignore the whole situation and pretend it never existed in the first place. But, to do this we would need something really big to hide it all under. Maybe if we had a big white rug, we could sweep all this ugly dirt and baggage under it and then we wouldn’t have to see it anymore.

Well, I guess that could work, if not for a few problems. Anyone who’s ever had a white rug knows how easy it is to sully its veneer with muck and dirt; a white rug will always be the first to be tarnished by its stains. Plus, what happens when someone decides to look under the rug and sees all that’s hidden beneath? Some of that is bound to get out, and there’s only so many times you can sweep Don Imus, Dog the Bounty Hunter and the Jena 6 back under the rug.

White people lack the tools to deal with race, and so we choose, by and large, to ignore it, rather than try to deal with it. To cover it up or pretend it was solved through some past efforts, rather than to work towards the creation of a language that could begin the real healing process. It is only through this communication that we will find our lost path.

Instead of this, though, we have our white rug of silence to keep all the dirt covered. Well, perhaps it’s time that we take notice of newer trends in interior decorating. Let’s pull up the old rug and put in the effort to refinish that beautiful hardwood floor. Hey, if nothing else, it’ll increase the resale value in this God-awful housing market.

Discount stores for love

By JACKIE JENNINGS

About a week ago I started noticing a change in my beloved online dating service commercials. Sure, they still feature the grinning, color-coordinated couples testifying to their true love from in front of a white bed sheet. Some self-consciously cutesy, slightly dated love-song plays as the couples hold hands and proclaim variations on the theme of every online dating service ad: “Can’t believe we fell in love online? Neither can we! But we *did*.”

Only now, after the dopey grins, there’s more. With *Chemistry.com* your first five matches are free! And *Match.com* offers six months of membership free after your first six months! I suppose a discount is a discount and always appreciated. But something about half-priced soulmates just didn’t sit well with me.

To be fair, the entire concept of online dating never sat well with me. It seemed to suggest that personality and mutual attraction can be reduced to an equation. As a reader- and writer-type, I generally dislike equations. But I’m also a cheerleader for the ineffable qualities of that wide swath of human emotion called love, however dated that sentiment may be.

In recognizing how wide a trail the idea of love blazes through our cultural lexicon, I also have to recognize that maybe a kind of relationship does exist which can be found online. After all, binary code takes “2” as its base. And with all those 0s and 1s I’m sure my psychoanalytic mind can find some delicious metaphor for love and sexual connection via cable modem but ... something still feels amiss as far as these ads are concerned.

It’s not the fact that you can meet people online that bothers me. I believe that people can find one another in a chat room just as they can in a bar, at a circus, the park or wherever — the Internet doesn’t make it easier. It’s just another place to look, fraught with its own problems and games to play. I suppose match-making sites can remove the guesswork in some ways, assuming everyone is honest (of course people never misrepresent themselves online).

Everyone knows what the other is after in a basic sense. But in trading sensory perceptions for anonymity and fast answers it doesn’t seem like you necessarily get closer to success. You might come away from a profile knowing how many kids someone wants but can never quantify how funny their jokes are, how charming their smile is or the other human details that amount to the spark between two people who really like each other.

The fact that, after a few years of mainstream existence, sites like *Chemistry.com* and *Match.com* are offering discounts is no more revealing than any other store offering coupons or special deals. But the kind of discounts they are offering is significant. My first five matches are free? Six months free after my first six (presumably fruitless) months of searching? So I’m going to sift through at least five non-matches over a year? That doesn’t sound like a faster, more efficient way of meeting people. It sounds a lot like dating.

I refuse to believe love is formulaic. It’s circumstantial. I suppose as the circumstances of life change, as we work at computers, play games in front of screens and even learn in front of them maybe it is inevitable that we’ll discover love via technology as well. Yet I think of the people I love and wonder: If I had met them in a different place and time would we still have clicked? I like to think not. It makes me more proud of the relationships I have and cling to the people I love more — love isn’t a foregone conclusion between two people but a set of serendipitous turns resulting in a happy relationship.

And once we find them — that great friend, that amazing boyfriend, a compassionate mentor — can we really name the price it takes to keep them or the price we’d pay to find them all over again? I’m not talking about dinners, phone bills, road trips or the tangible expenses of love. I’m talking about the sleepless nights spent wondering if she’s at a party talking to someone with better stories to tell, the hours listening about someone else’s crappy day and the heartache and fear that comes from really sharing everything you are with another person. I suppose a discount is a nice thought, but it doesn’t even begin to cover the potential for loss and the worlds to be gained in finding people to love.

I’m glad to see these sites have been humbled into deals that inadvertently admit finding a partner takes time and sifting and even a little compromise. No matter what new-fangled formula they might employ to find a mate, these sites have reaffirmed what my beloved authors and poets have known of love for generations: Love, love ... it don’t come easy.

Jackie Jennings is a senior Writing Seminars major from Madison, N.J.

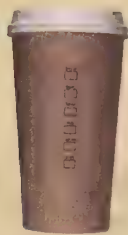
Michael Berman is a senior International Studies major from New Providence, N.J.

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THE B SECTION

Arts & Entertainment • Science & Technology • Your News-Letter • Cartoons • Calendar • Sports

APRIL 17, 2008

DIY Feminism

The participants of Ladyfest offer an alternative take on what it means to be a woman.



One night stand
or
long-term lover?
One look in their
faces might be all
it takes to find out.

Read more in
Science, B6.

INSIDE B SECTION



CALENDAR

• Held together with duct tape, the godfather of Baltimore quirk, **Dan Deacon**, makes a campus visit, **B3**

YOUR N-L

• Engineers take a break from their calculations to craft **videos** that celebrate the Whiting School, **B8**.

SPORTS

• **Kathy Horn's** lucky number is seven, the same number of track events she runs, **B10**.

CALENDAR APRIL 17 - APRIL 23

APR.
17

WJHU radio brings Dan Deacon home

This Saturday, Baltimore electronic aficionado Dan Deacon will perform at Hopkins' very own Mattin Center SDS Room. The show is presented by WJHU radio and is absolutely free.

The leader of the local arts and music collective Wham City, Deacon brings a frenzied pulsating blend of electronic quasi-pop bliss to every show. His synth lines are interlaced with woody woodpecker noises, a joyously altered voice and bizarre stream of consciousness lyrics. His set-up includes an entire table full of electronic equipment right on the floor often enveloped by his crowd. While his audience oscillates around him, Deacon's signature trippy green skull is a fitting companion to his vaudeville-esque act.

Dan Deacon is an eccentric fellow to say the least. The man does not believe in flying and chooses to travel most everywhere using only Greyhound buses.

He is also a devout health-food junkie who lost over 60 pounds since converting to a more organic menu. In his contract for concerts, it clearly states that he must be presented with a non-sulfite bottle of wine and an array of fresh vegetables before the show, with the venue being a mile within a health-food store.

With all his outward idiosyncrasies however, Deacon is a classically trained composer and received his master's degree in electro-acoustic music from SUNY-Purchase. He also released seven albums between 2003 to 2007.

None however, match his latest release *Spiderman of the Rings*, which was highly acclaimed by both critics and fans alike. The



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.WINDISHISAGENCY.COM](http://www.windishisagency.com)
Don't complain that Hopkins doesn't make an effort: This Saturday, Dan Deacon comes to the Mattin Center in all his glory.

record received an 8.7 from the always critical Pitchfork Media and was named No. 24 on their best albums of the year. The album's hyperactive nostalgic sound makes one reminisce about a frolicking careless childhood in which things were better and dancing senseless was always alright.

Touring with Girl Talk last year, Dan Deacon put on one of the most unique shows Baltimore has seen in a long time at a similarly accessible local church. Playing in the 2640 Space on St. Paul Street, most in attendance were there for Deacon and not the mash-up master Girl Talk.

Rushed by the 12 o'clock curfew to make way for the so-called "main act," his set only lasted about four songs, ending with

the triumphant "Crystal Cat." Soon after this finale, someone decided to steal Deacon's glasses, after which he ran around seemingly blind screaming like a madman. Thankfully for everyone, he found them. This time around there is no one playing after him and definitely no curfew. Not that the audience was complaining about his antics.

Also featured with Dan Deacon are two Hopkins students. Freshmen Ryan Decker, a.k.a. Lucky Strike, has made several mixtape volumes which are circling the online world. He brings Girl Talk-like mashups to a general repertoire of dance music. Following him will be Matt Diamond, also known as FTNS. Diamond, a student at Peabody, was recently awarded

an electronic music honor. His music is similar to Dan Deacon and mixes electronic beats with amusing lyrics. The afterparty will be held in the same room and will feature Baltimore club DJ Daren Lake.

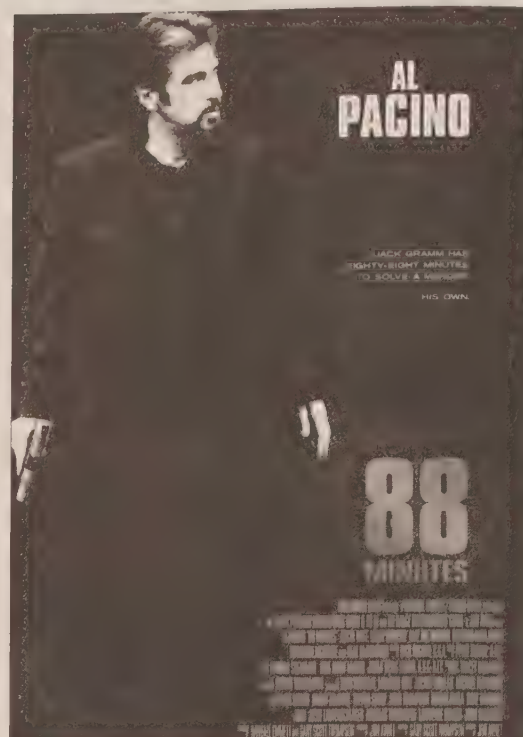
This is one of the most avant-garde shows Hopkins has ever seen and a unique opportunity to see Dan Deacon in an ultra-small venue before such spectacles cease to be. Plus, the show is completely free and on campus. Doors at 8 p.m. The show starts at 8:30. Come early or not at all because even if Hopkins students don't realize the immensity of this show, Baltimore hipsters near and far will, and be present in big numbers.

—Ishan Dasgupta

MOVIE OPENINGS

88 Minutes

Opening at AMC Theatres Towson Commons 8
Friday, April 18
2:30 p.m. | 5:10 p.m. | 7:40 p.m. | 10:15 p.m.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.MOVIEWEB.COM](http://www.movieweb.com)

In this new thriller, Al Pacino plays a university professor who harmlessly assists the FBI in matters of forensic psychiatry when he learns that someone plans to kill him in 88 minutes.

seeds and a free umbrella.

visit the box office located next to the Recher Theatre.

Wednesday, April 23

8 p.m. – 10 p.m. Hopkins Got Talent

Join Vision XChange for an evening where Hopkins performers, dancers and singers compete for the title of "Hopkins's Most Talented" for cash prizes where the audience has the power of deciding who should win. Tickets will be priced at \$5.00. All proceeds will go towards counseling young Palestinian children in war torn areas battling psychological trauma. For more information, visit <http://vxchange.info/index.html>.

Sunday, April 20

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Maryland's SP-CA's March for the Animals

This annual march, located at the Druid Hill Park (2600 Madison Ave.) raises money for homeless animals in the Baltimore community includes activities like a pet communicator, pet/owner look-alike contests, training tips from a SPCA dog trainer and more. Call (410) 396-6106 for more information on participating.

1 p.m. – 6 p.m. Highlandtown Wine Festival

The Highlandtown Community Association and Di Pasquale's Italian Market celebrate the tradition of home wine-making, with wine tastings, bocce, music, wine-making demonstrations and light fare. A homemade wine competition will be judged by area wine experts. The bocce tournament will take place from a.m. - 3 p.m. on April 19 and 20. Tickets and entry forms are available at Di Pasquale's (3700 Gough St., (410) 276-6787) Visit <http://www.highlandtown.com> for more information. The festival will take place at the Our Lady of Pompei Convent Courtyard, 229 S. Conkling St.

Local events

Thursday, April 17

7 p.m. Every Third Thursday Wine Tasting

Wine tastings tend to offer little bang for your buck, but when Bartenders (2218 Boston St.) hosts its wine tasting you're sure to get what you came for. For \$35, enjoy 10-12 flights of wine, heavy hors d'oeuvres and accompanying cheeses.

Friday, April 18

5 p.m. – 10 p.m. UMBC Quadmania

(Also April 19 from 12 p.m. - 10 p.m. and April 20 from 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.) With three days of carnival rides and performances by Dan Deacon, the Oranges Band, Georgie James, Wordsmith and T-Pain, this year's festival is worth the \$15. Visit <http://www.umbc.edu/studentlife/orgs/seblquadmania.shtml> for more information on the event.

Saturday, April 19

7:30 p.m. Umphrey's McGee

Umphrey's spends half the year on the road habitually flooring audiences. Their anything-goes musicianship, humor and good-nature all make remarkable entertainment. The band shuttles between styles with precision, from straight-up pop and rock to jazz, prog-metal and classical. Check them out at Rams Head Live! for \$24, the day of the show. Visit <http://tickets.ramsheadlive.com/> for more information.

7 p.m. Cartel

See Cartel, playing with Ten Second Epic, Seven Days Torn and U.S. Royalty, at the Recher Theatre in Towson (512 York Road). For tickets, either go to <http://www.ticketmaster.com> and search Recher Theatre under venues, or

Tuesday, April 22

5 p.m. – 8 p.m. ReNew Organic Day Spa

Head to the ReNew Organic Day Spa (843 36th St.) and learn simple ways to go green while sampling organic wines provided by the Wine Source. Call (410) 400-2745 for more information.

7:30 p.m. Celebrate Earth Day: Voices of the Earth

Voices of the Earth is a collection of choral compositions (music by Eugene Friesen) sharing a common insight: Nature is our solace, inspiration and responsibility. The event will be held at Church of the Redeemer, 5603 Charles St.; visit <http://jezic.org> for details.

Campus events

Thursday, April 17

4 p.m. – 6 p.m. "The Inter-American Development Bank and Indigenous Peoples in Latin America: Policy, projects and development"

Carlos Eloy Viteri Gualinga is an anthropologist and member of the Kichwa (Quechua) people of the Ecuadorian Amazon region. Until 2002 he worked as a civil- and human-rights activist and supporter of the Indigenous Peoples Organizations. Viteri Gualinga currently works in the Gender and Diversity Unit of the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) as a Social Development Specialist. The Program for Latin American Studies hosts in Macaulay 400.

6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Society of Women Engineers' Networking Social
The Society of Women Engineers

(SWE) is hosting a Networking Dinner for all-women engineers in Charles Commons Ballroom B. This event features industry members from top engineering companies, Johns Hopkins faculty members and free food.

8 p.m. Witness Spring Showcase

Springtime brings a new round of Witness Theatre goodness. This season's program includes: *Exchange* by Erin Donohue, directed by Sal Gentile; *Baby Girl* by Laura Gordon, directed by Kara Anderson and Erin Donohue; *Findings* by Sal Gentile, directed by Kelly Chuang; and *Fish* by Joe Micali, directed by Jessica Aloe. The show runs under an hour and will be held in Arellano under the Glass Pavilion. Shows run Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 19

9 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. SALUD Health

Conference: HIV in Baltimore

SALUD will hold its seventh-annual free health conference called "HIV in Baltimore." There will be two great speakers from the Light and Health Comprehensive Services, great workshops for discussions and food. The whole conference is free, and will be held in the Computational Science and Engineering Building room B17.

9 a.m. MCAT Practice

Princeton Review and AED (the Pre-Health Honors Society) are holding a full-length MCAT practice test given under simulated testing conditions in Shaffer 1 and Maryland 226. You'll get a detailed score report so you'll know your strengths and weaknesses. To take part, register at aedjhu@gmail.com. Pizza will be served afterwards.

Climbing and Mountain Biking

Looking to get outdoors now that spring has arrived? Join Outdoor

Pursuits on Saturday, April 19 for climbing or mountain biking. Both trips are geared to any skill level and open to anyone in the Hopkins community. For more info or to sign up, visit <http://www.jhu.edu/op>.

Monday, April 21

Vote in the WSE Video Contest!

Vote online and help select the winner of the Whiting School of Engineering Video Competition's "People's Choice Award." Vote by Monday, April 21 at <http://www.engineering.jhu.edu/videocontest08/peopleschoice.html>.

7:30 a.m. - 5:45 p.m. Give blood at next Homewood Campus drive: Tuesday and Wednesday

On Earth Day, April 22 or April 23, help those in need by donating blood at the next Homewood Campus Blood Drive in the Glass Pavilion. Make sure you have eaten a meal before you donate. Seasonal gifts include flower

Exposure

By Angeli Bueno



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Women assume power at LadyFest Baltimore

By SARAH SABSHON
Arts & Entertainment Editor

This weekend, women and female-identified alike congregated to embrace their souls and bodies at the first ever LadyFest Baltimore. Originating eight years ago, LadyFest was created by a few female activists involved in the Riot Girl and Do It Yourself (DIY) movements who wanted an event that would celebrate women and female culture.

Since 2000 with the first LadyFest in Olympia, Wash., a multitude of states and countries have hosted their own. 2008 will see LadyFests in Bordeaux, London, Toronto, Switzerland, Buenos Aires, New Zealand and other locales.

In the beginning of 2007, Baltimore saw its own LadyFest stirrings with the efforts of four radical women who began holding meetings to discuss feminine issues with the ultimate goal of planning a LadyFest.

Xander Dumas, one member of the planning committee, joined in May 2007 when the group was rolling into high gear with over 25 participants, brainstorming ideas and coming up with new ways to invigorate the Baltimore feminist community.

Over the past year, there have been numerous fundraisers for LadyFest Baltimore which have helped pay for all of the components and also served as advertising for the main event. Any additional, unused funds went to Power Inside, a nonprofit organization working to help rebuild the lives of women impacted by incarceration, street life and abuse.

The planning committee quickly decided that while the first LadyFest focused mostly on female musicians, the Baltimore edition should have a heavy focus on workshops and learning experiences.

"There are a lot of great women with really interesting things



China Martens leads a workshop on balancing Anarcha-Feminism and being a mother. ANGELI BUENO/PHOTO ASSISTANT

to say and to teach, and some of them are radical in mainstream society terms ... We wanted to make it more available to anyone who wanted to learn about alternatives to mainstream culture," Dumas said.

Alternative is definitely the right word for the trend in eclectic workshops offered by LadyFest. Housed mostly in St. John's Church, also known as 2640 (St. Paul Street), workshops from Saturday morning until Sunday night ranged from raw food cooking lessons, to discussions on feminist race relations, to breast casting, knitting lessons and interpretive poetry readings.

In a workshop on menstrual protection alternatives, women learned about the dangers of using conventional tampons and pads for both their bodies and the environment. They also learned what the other options are, including homemade pads, sea sponges and DivaCup (think of it like an upside down dia-

phragm) which are supposedly less harmful.

The women who led the group, Harriet Smith and Sine Jensen, stressed that tampons, in addition to creating risk for Toxic Shock Syndrome, sucks out all types of nutrients from the body, scrapes the cervix walls and releases dioxin into the bloodstream.

Smith said, "Capitalism and patriarchy have hand-in-hand made us believe that we need to put dioxin-filled cotton into our c--- to care for our menstruation ... Hey capitalism! I don't hate myself that much to let myself put chemicals and badness into my body."

The leaders urged women to also think about the environment while taking care of their menstruation through purchasing reusable alternatives, or at least those that are organic.

The average menstruating woman uses 9,000 tampons or pads in her lifetime, most of which end up in landfills. Smith and Jensen encouraged serious reduction in disposable menstrual products.

Another discussion group on women's relationships with their body hair featured a half hour documentary, titled, *Women and Body Hair: An Intimate Relationship* that explores the cultural expectations of women's bodies as it related to visible body hair.

The film focused on personal body hair anecdotes of young women, mostly in their early 20s, all the time questioning why

women shave if purely due to societal pressure.

After the viewing of the documentary, the 30 or so participants divided into two groups and discussed their own stories, questions and concerns regarding body hair.

The women asked questions such as: Is this a purely feminine phenomenon, or are men struggling with their own body hair as well? Is there a difference between shaving your underarms, your legs and your public areas? And even if we choose to shave, how can we be more understanding of those who don't? Although no definitive answers were given, the women walked away feeling relieved that others have had similarly tumultuous relationships with their body hair.

Not only did participants feel an overwhelming sense of community over the three-day LadyFest, but even those who led workshops were inspired by the efforts and attitudes of the attendees and organizers.

China Martens, a single radical mother, led a workshop on radical parenting called, "Don't Leave Your Friends Behind: Supporting Anarcha-Feminism & Supporting Mothers and Children." After her first book, *The Future Generation: A Zine-Book for Subculture Parents, Kids, Friends & Others*, was published by Atomic Book Company, Martens went on a book tour.

When she read about the plans for a LadyFest in the *City Paper*, **CONTINUED ON PAGE B5**

Cartographic talents shown in Walters' "Maps"

By MARIE CUSHING
News & Features Editor

Maps can be used to represent anything — from complex land and sea navigations to the intricate contours of the human brain. They can show something as large as entire galaxies or as small as an individual strand of DNA.

But are maps art?

Anyone who has struggled with an impossible-to-fold road map would say no. But a new exhibit at the Walters Art Museum shows the true talent and beauty behind cartography.

Now these everyday objects are part of *Maps: Finding our Place in the World* is the largest exhibition of maps in the past 50 years.

If you're doubting the power of maps to affect humanity, the Walters may change your mind with its new exhibit called *The Map that Changed the World*.

Created in 1812 by William Smith, the 11-foot-tall geological study of Great Britain is imposing. As Smith plotted the different rock formations, he realized that England must have been shaped over millions of years — much more than the Protestant

Church — endorsed 6,000 year timeline.

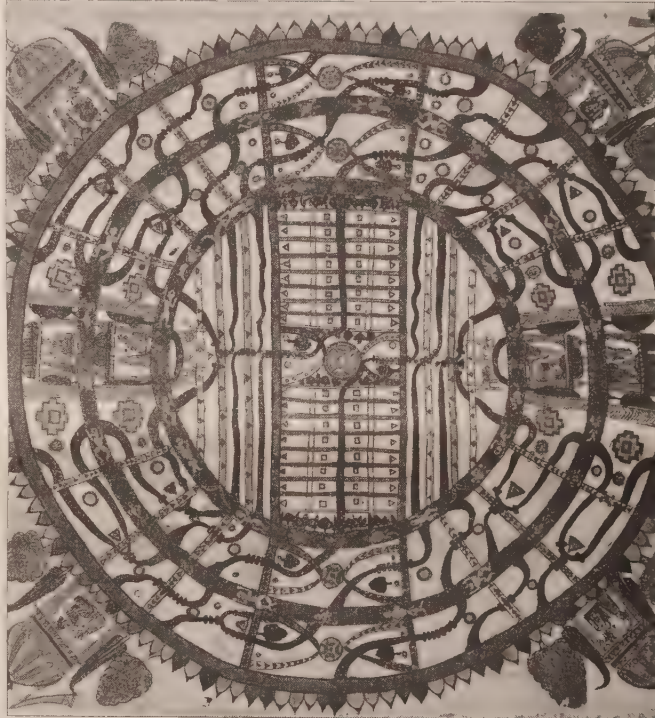
This provided the timeline that a scientist by the name of Charles Darwin needed to give weight to his theory of evolution. You may have heard of it.

Another map depicts the plotting of cholera deaths in London during a mid-19th century outbreak of the disease. Each death is gruesomely marked with a tiny coffin, but the map helped show that because deaths were clustered around a water source the disease had to be spread through water.

A handwritten map by Thomas Jefferson shows his plans for how he would like to see the United States take shape — imagine a dozen rectangular slices of state where Indiana and Missouri are now.

More artistic representations include three pieces by Leonardo DaVinci. One of DaVinci's maps includes different colors for different gradients which he made using a topography technique 300 years before it was implemented.

Part of the exhibit is dedicated to "Maps of the Imagination." These are pieces created by **CONTINUED ON PAGE B5**



A 19th c. Jain cosmological diagram maps the Manusyaloka, or the World of Man. COURTESY OF THE WALTERS MUSEUM

Student wins regional playwriting competition

By JOHN KERNAN
Arts & Entertainment Editor

In January, sophomore Eric Levitz was awarded a Certificate of Merit from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival for his play "Without Parachutes." He won the Region II competition for 10-minute plays, beating out every other play from Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania that entered into the National Playwriting Program.

This weekend, Levitz's play will go up against the winners from eight other regions, though only four others were actually invited to be read. The overall winner will receive \$1,000 if selected for the National 10-Minute Play Award, and another \$1,000 is available to the winner of the John Cauble Short Play Award, along with the possibility of a publishing contract and catalogue listing.

The *News-Letter* had the opportunity to ask Levitz about the play, his inspiration and the award.

"Without Parachutes" centers on a couple who finds themselves on a crashing airplane. They flash back to scenes during their meeting and early stages of their courtship, all of which tie smoothly into the experience of the crash.

Levitz said that a plane crash had been in the back of his mind for some time. He said, "Ever since September 11, crashing planes have been a pretty prevalent motif in my dreams. I could be in the middle of doing anything, sitting at the beach, talking with a friend in my living room and then outside the window we'll turn and see a plane crashing. And every time this happens it's always terribly haunting because there's this sensation of horror and then euphoric relief that I am not on the plane and so to me it's just a

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



FILE PHOTO

Levitz ironically played an aspiring writer in a production of *Brighton Beach Memoirs*.

Last Week Live Spoon

Last Friday, Spoon came to Sonar and played an unexpectedly dynamic show to a rapt audience. It was the most chilled out, laid-back rock concert I have been to. No one moshed — the dancing consisted mostly of head-bobbing and rocking from side to side. One person even apologized for brushing into me in the middle of the crowd. The audience had a respectful, appreciative enthusiasm for Spoon, which the band rewarded with

not one, but two encores. The opening acts also added a lot to the show and definitely did a good job of warming up the audience for Spoon.

The show opened with a performance by the White Rabbits, a young, all-male, six-person indie rock band from Brooklyn. The band describes their style as "honky-tonk calypso" and has two drummers and three singers. They maintained a great intensity throughout their set with songs from their debut album, *Fort Nightly*. Many of the women in the audience swooned over various members of the band — my personal favorite was the piano player (and singer), Stephen Patterson. In between songs he would gnaw on lemon slices and toss them onto the stage, lending him a certain devil-may-care persona.

The Walkmen were up next, and impressed the audience with their slightly grittier rock, a sort of post-punk revival, complemented the White Rabbits' sound extremely well. The lead singer, Ham-

ilton Leithauser, had a distinctive persona, leaning on himself for a bit of added rock-star swagger. The crowd was receptive to the White Rabbits and the Walkmen, which were both engaging bands with indie-rock sounds similar to Spoon's, but the audience was clearly there for the main event.

Spoon's adaptability throughout the concert was striking.

They employed a three-piece horn section, whose musicians were not real members of Spoon, which added another dimension

to their sound on several songs. The band's sound and pace also changed significantly from song to song and from album to album. Britt Daniel, the lead singer of Spoon and a guitarist, held

the audience's attention with his presence and intensity. The rest of the band, comprised of Jim Eno on drums, Rob Pope on bass and Eric Harvey on keyboard, guitar, percussion and backing vocals. Spoon played all of their hits, including "The Delicate Place," "Don't You Evah," "I Turn My Camera On," "The Way We Get By," "You Got Yr. Cherry Bomb" and "I Summon You." When the band played one of their lesser-known songs, "The Ghost of You Lingers," Britt Daniel knelt to the ground and distorted his guitar as the dramatic, colorful lighting showcased his intensity. The band's '80s-glam performance of the song enthralled the audience.

The lighting at the concert was consistently beautiful, and perfectly timed to go with the music — the colors and patterns changed with each song. Spoon seemed ex-

ceptionally receptive to the audience and fed off of their enthusiasm. Their first encore consisted of a few of their own songs, but for their second encore the band brought back their horns section and finished out the evening with a rousing rendition of the Rolling Stones' "Rocks Off," leaving the crowd on a high note.

About 10 minutes after the show ended and much of the audience had left for the night, a sweat-soaked, exhausted Britt Daniel came back around to linger with the stragglers from the audience. He happily gave autographs and took pictures with all of the fans who requested them. While I am by no means a die-hard Spoon fan, their concert definitely gave me a newfound appreciation for the band and the versatility of their music.

—Liz Schwartzberg



Guitarist and lead singer Britt Daniel rocked out in the intimate venue, showering the audience with sweat and enthusiasm. COURTESY OF ZACHARY GROUND

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Ethnicity and family explored in Brazilian film

By ALEXANDER TRAUM
Managing Editor

The Year my Parents Went on Vacation takes place in 1970 in Brazil. It was a tumultuous yet exciting time to live in the country. At the time Brazil was ruled by a military dictatorship that frequently arrested accused dissidents. Yet it was also the year that the national soccer team, led by superstar Pelé, was on its way to win the World Cup.

The film centers on a young 12-year old boy named Mauro (Michel Joelsas), whose parents leave him with his paternal grandfather after having to go underground to avoid arrest.

When Mauro arrives at his grandfather's Sao Paolo apartment, young Mauro discovers that the grandfather that he never met had died just minutes earlier.

Mauro is brought in by his grandfather's neighbor, Shlomo (Germano Haiut), who acts like his surrogate parent. Shlomo is an orthodox Jew who works in the local synagogue and seamlessly moves between Portuguese and Yiddish.

But Mauro's father is Jewish, which, according to the religious community he finds himself thrust into makes him a "goy," a term they pejoratively call him initially. Much of the narrative concerns the tensions between Mauro and the traditionalist community that brings him in.

This issue is first raised when Mauro is caught peeing in Shlomo's houseplant because Shlomo is taking too long in the bathroom.

Shlomo is stunned, not so much that Mauro is peeing in the middle of his living room, but that he is not circumcised. While some of the Yiddish is subtitled for the audience, much of it isn't. The selective translation effectively conveys Mauro's confusion and sense of otherness.

Yet it does not take long for Mauro to become embraced by the community. He sits around daily being overfed by elderly



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM
Michel Joelsas plays Mauro, a 12-year-old boy who must fend for himself after his parents go underground to avoid arrest.

Jewish women and dragged to synagogue where he sits bewildered among the bearded men. He also befriends several kids in the neighborhood, including a girl on whom he has a mutual, yet unspoken crush.

The Sao Paolo neighborhood reveals the multicultural fabric of urban life. Groups mingle, yet largely keep apart in daily life. It is soccer, however, that serves to bring everyone together.

During the World Cup everyone in the country from the orthodox rabbi to the young college students are glued to their television sets. The sport also serves to bring people together on the local level.

One particularly comical scene involves a soccer match between the local Jewish and Italian communities. The Jewish team's goalie is none other than a black Catholic man.

Soccer is also the sport that inspires and distracts young Mauro. Mauro dreams of becoming a goalie, a position that he understands to be the one in which mistakes cannot be made. The goalie serves as a symbol for the position that Mauro

finds himself in, alone and his own protector.

While Mauro's abandonment forms the heart of the story, both narratively and emotionally, there is also the subtext of the volatile

political situation in Brazil in 1970.

Yet the film is a character-centered one. This is both a plus and a minus. The acting is tremendous, and executed powerfully yet realistically. Joelsas captures the confusion and contradictions of being caught between childhood and adulthood. Haiut, too, effectively portrays the struggle of an old

The goalie serves as a symbol for the position that Mauro finds himself in, alone and as his own protector.

Students visit *Gossip Girl* set in NYC

By ALEXANDRA BYER
News-Letter Staff Writer

The Film and Media Studies department is often and easily overlooked at Hopkins, a school known for its overwhelming number of pre-meds and International Studies students. But the small department gained huge benefits when it was asked to tour the studio of the CW's new hit show *Gossip Girl* during the first week in April.

A group of around 15 undergraduates embarked on a trip to New York City that was organized by associate director of Film and Media Studies Linda DeLibero, the Hopkins Office of External Affairs and the president of Motion Picture Enterprises, Neal Pilzer '78. The original goal of the trip was to introduce current Hopkins film majors to alumni who are in the film, television and media industries. While the visit to New York accomplished this through a cocktail party where students met and talked to alumni, it also offered students a much broader glimpse into the industry.

Students found the party a good way to get a new perspective of the industry. Freshman Mac Schwerin commented, "I was encouraged by the number of very enthusiastic JHU grads we met; it's nice to know that there's a thriving network of interesting and successful people in the business, especially considering the department's small size." Students were actually able to tour the set of *Gossip Girl* while shooting was taking place and had the op-

portunity to visit the set of the BBC's *What Not to Wear* as well.

Thanks to the generosity of assistant director and Hopkins parent Vebe Borge, students were welcomed graciously on location in Queens, N.Y. on the set of *Gossip Girl*. Arriving right off the bus from Baltimore, students were quickly ushered into seats on the sidewalk outside where the crew was shooting a scene inside a café, and a TV was set up to watch what was being shot inside.

The set of the show was bustling with production assistants, cameramen, hair and makeup artists, costume designers, set dressers, grips, actors and, of course, paparazzi. Though for the time being the majors were not actually inside watching the actors, they got a first-hand glance at the production side of things (an aspect many are involved with in their classes at Hopkins).

Members of the production team, including Borge and second assistant director Brian Kenyon, spoke to students about their personal involvement in the industry. From many of the production assistants' points of view things seemed bleak. Stu-

dents were told that it's hard to get a break into the business and even when you're in it's a lot of tedious, small jobs until you even get close to "making it." Most weren't disillusioned though and realize what it takes to be in the film and television industry.

Even for those students who don't watch the show, which seemed to be the majority, the experience was still thrilling. The Hopkins students had a first-hand opportunity to learn about the technology used to create the show. Director of Photography Ron Fortunato spoke to some students about filming the show and gave them a tour around the tent where he oversees the film production process.

The knowledgeable majors were amazed by the completely digital and high definition technology used on a television show that is mostly aimed at young teenagers. Though the content of the show may not have been to everyone's taste, students came away from the experience realizing that the work that goes into making such a show spectacular.

Freshman film major Aljosa
CONTINUED ON PAGE B5



COURTESY OF ERIC TATE
Students were able to watch live digital feeds of filming on large screens outside show's set.

New Vibrations

ARTIST

The Kooks

ALBUM

Konk

LABEL

Astralwerks

RELEASED

April 15, 2008



tracks on *Inside*.

With a touch of classic rock and roll flair, "Do You Wanna" is another one of the CD's best songs. Its lyrics are direct and lead singer Pritchard seductively sings, "Do you wanna, do you wanna, do wanna make love to me? I know you wanna, I know you wanna, I know you wanna make love to me."

Although in "Gap" Pritchard kind of whines the words "But don't go, take my love, I won't let you, I'm saying please don't go" and later, "And I miss you, and I love you. That's true," his choice to sing it that way actually is endearing. Unfortunately, the rest of the song is easily forgettable.

The same is true about several of the tracks on *Konk* like "Mr. Maker," "Love It All," "Sway" and "Shine On." These songs are generally fun and upbeat with a few elevated moments, usually during the choruses, but overall they all sound similar and are not anything too special.

"One Last Time," "Tick of Time" and "All Over Town," the final three tracks are debatably the blandest songs on the album. They are more acoustic than usual, which inherently is not a problem. Yet, they fail to ignite any emotional response.

However, there might be hope. In addition to their regular album, the Kooks have put out a deluxe version of *Konk* with a second disc and nine bonus tracks. Maybe those nine songs will show the potential the Kooks seemed to show after their first CD with a return to the old magic and more experimentation or maybe the second CD will be more of the same.

With Moby's return to his forte of dance music, let's hope that this is a warm-up album — a chance to stretch his electronica legs. While there are a number of good tracks on the album, it is clear that Moby needs to get back in shape.

—Sarah Addison

THE YEAR MY PARENTS WENT ON VACATION

Starring: Michel Joelsas,
Germano Haiut
Director: Cao Hamburger
Run Time: 110 min.
Rating: PG
Playing at: The Charles

Levitz wins regional playwriting competition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3
pretty-looking explosion. Which perhaps is an apt metaphor for watching a play about the end of someone's relationship."

While the finalists all get published, Levitz says that it is "some presumably small company" that will be doing the printing. Although it may not be a national-scale publication, Levitz says he still greatly values the recognition. "The validation of having one's work accepted and appreciated is incredibly valuable for any aspiring artist, or really any one with a vocation. In the three months since being named regional winner, I've completed my second full-length play. I think that the confidence that winning granted me definitely helped me to make that happen."

Levitz was humble about his own chances of winning — there are five competitors, and he says "my chances are 20 percent" — neither undercutting himself nor being boastful.

The five finalists will have their plays read by national Irene Ryan acting scholarship finalists. The reading will take place this Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

And what will it mean if Levitz does end up winning? "I'll get a thousand dollars and maybe a trip to Space Camp or something."

ARTIST

Sun Kil Moon

ALBUM

April

LABEL

Caldo Verde

RELEASED

April 1, 2008



where I felt there were some overlaps from other artists. Occasionally we hear hints of Sufjan Stevens — you can't talk about palisades any more without Sufjan coming to mind. Similarly, Kozelek can't get away with his fast-picking of a D-chord while whispering out a song without us thinking of Elliot Smith.

Despite these stark similarities, who is really to say if they are intentional? Besides, what would music be if we couldn't borrow a bit here and there from our fellow artists?

Also worth mentioning are guests Ben Gibbard (Death Cab For Cutie), and Eric Pollard (Retribution Gospel Choir). These indie names will surely attract hipsters looking to boost their name-dropping quota ("Hey, did you hear Ben Gibbard on the new Sun Kil Moon album?"), but also actually do add to the value of the album.

April isn't quite the super-hip, exciting new record that you go and tell all your friends about. There isn't a standout single, no part where you turn it up and say, "Here, listen to this."

But when you need some music to get you through the late hours of the night, or the difficult struggle of an early morning, Sun Kil Moon's latest effort will more than serve to quicken your mind.

—John Kernan

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTO ASSISTANT

Baltimore's LadyFest featured a documentary about body hair, a discussion about menstrual protection and several workshops.

Baltimore embraces female culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

she knew it would be a place to spread her message of education and tolerance for children in the generally child-free anarchist community.

"I think it's great to be a part of this. We need to build positive things ... there is an upsurge of issues and activism and I want to participate in that and with people who are open to these issues ... It's been really productive and people have walked away learning things they had never even thought about before," Martens said.

Baltimore, according to both Martens and Dumas, has played an integral role in making this LadyFest as successful as possible.

"The city has a lot of wonderful qualities and also struggles; you can be beaten down, it's really a hard place to live," Martens said.

"But things are changing and there has been a lot of gentrification, which I never thought could ever come to this place. There is the community growing around Red Emma's bookstore and a

great art scene and probably tons of activists groups that I don't even know about ... it leaves you a little inspired."

Dumas agrees with the positive growth in Baltimore. "There are a lot of really interesting things going on in Baltimore ... Baltimore is very unique."

Jessie Hughes, an attendee and native Baltimorean, also acknowledged the changes in the city.

"I've really seen Baltimore grow over the years, especially as a musician in the music scene here, I've seen it blossom. Sometimes when you are in a smaller city, there is a pulling together and the need for it is more apparent," she said.

"What you have is a bunch of people who are willing to step up and who are intelligent and highly motivated and they come together. They exist in every city but there's been a noticeable lacking in the past here and people are finally stepping up."

It appears that the first LadyFest Baltimore was ultimately a success. According to Dumas, over 100 people attended the

opening party and concert and workshops boasted as many as 30 participants.

Hughes confirmed this, saying, "I think it has been really informative but it's been a very open environment for people to share their views and opinions. ... I've really enjoyed that a lot. There have been enough people that there are many different viewpoints represented but it's also intimate enough that it still feels accessible, so it's been nice."

"We've had a really positive experience ... it's been a great turnout," Dumas said. She explained that next year's LadyFest hopes to be bigger and better perhaps with increased advertising and more participant input.

In each schedule pamphlet, an evaluation was included to encourage attendees to voice what they liked and disliked about the experience.

"I'm thinking it's been really successful," Dumas said. "It's been great and as far as following up this year and into the future ... We're hoping there will be a LadyFest next year but that's up to Baltimore."

JHU alum gives inside look at TV

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B4

Zovko said, "The best part was seeing the collaboration of such a large crew, from production assistant to sound engineer, working simultaneously and synchronously to create a professional production such as *Gossip Girl*."

One of the greatest experiences while on set was when students were allowed into the "café" where the shooting was taking place to watch the actors rehearse their lines and stage their actions. Of course the glamour of the movie stars, including Blake Lively, Michelle Trachtenberg and Penn Badgley, and being mere feet away from them left the students somewhat starry-eyed. But keeping their cool, many of the majors were also enthralled by being inside the set and seeing the cameras used.

After leaving the set where the shooting was taking place, a quick bus ride brought students to Silvercup Studios, where the rest of the sets for the show are. Students were given a tour of each of the different rooms used in the show, including (for those who are familiar with the show) the Humphrey's apartment, Blaire's room and bathroom,

the Waldorf's apartment, Rufus's studio and the characters' high school. Though there was no live shooting, this aspect of the trip proved to be just as exciting.

"The indoor studios were really interesting, especially the wall-size high resolution photographs of Manhattan, which are used as background to create the impression of an on-location shoot," Zovko said.

The personal tour of the set gave students a view of television they don't typically receive in the classroom. It gave them a chance to see firsthand what they hope to do in the future or to decide that this aspect of production isn't for them. The two-day trip ended with a tour of the reality show *What Not to Wear* in Manhattan. Similar to their tour of the *Gossip Girl* set, students were shown around the studio, saw the production side of the show and talked at length with both a production

assistant and Pilzer. Even Cameron Granger, a senior soon to graduate from the Film and Media Studies program, found that the trip showed her new things about film production.

"I was impressed with the camera magic they can do with a small shooting space to create a large on-screen environment. The *What Not to Wear* set was smaller than a lecture hall, but you never notice it on

TV," Granger said.

Pilzer seemed like a beacon of hope to students as he spoke of widening the relationship between Motion Picture Enterprises and its contacts with the Hopkins students. Not only was the trip a rewarding experience for students to get a first hand view of different sets and how production works, but also broadened the Film and Media Studies department's liaisons, which will hopefully help students in the future.

I was impressed with the camera magic they can do with a small shooting space to create a large on-screen environment.

—SENIOR CAMERON GRANGER

Maps more than just a collection of atlases

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

authors to illustrate the fantastic and magical worlds they have dreamed up.

For all you Frodo lovers: The exhibit displays an original autographed manuscript by J.R.R. Tolkien, which includes maps of Minas Tirith, Lonely Mountain and other Middle-earth highlights.

See if you can find the Heffalumps hiding in A.A. Milne's map of the Hundred-Acre Woods.

Hopkins is getting in on the map-making act: Seven students helped to create an exhibition that uses a series of Hubble Telescope images to map the cosmos.

This exhibit has been so successful in drawing audiences of all ages that there are talks to have it tour the country.

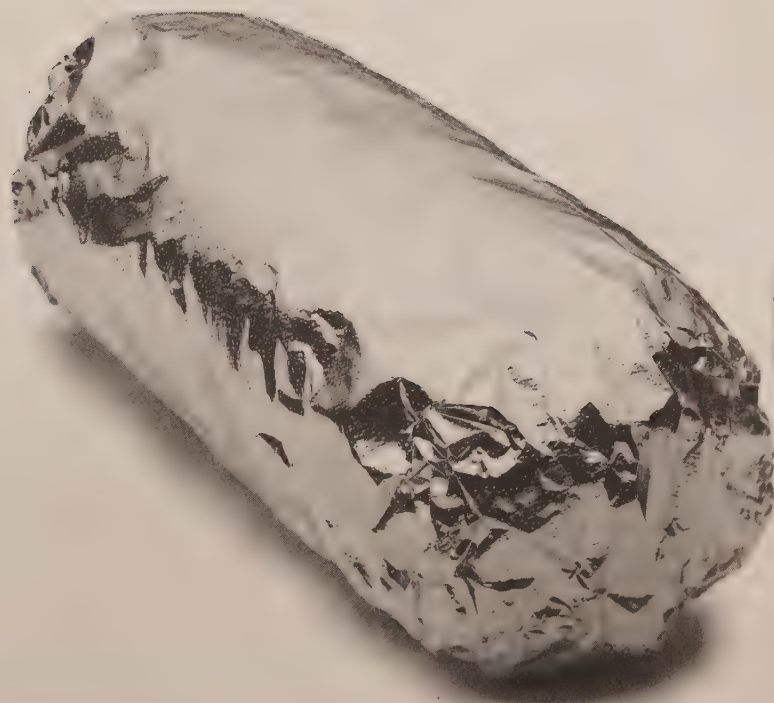
The museum has even coordinated a series of map-making workshops, where Baltimore residents from 23 communities captured their neighborhoods.

The exhibit will run through June 8. Tickets for college students are \$6.



COURTESY OF THE WALTERS MUSEUM

The Walters features a map of London in 1851 that George Shove created on a leather hand glove.



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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

New technique isolates blood-forming stem cells

By NEIL NEUMANN
News-Letter Staff Writer

In a recent publication, Saul Sharfman, a professor of oncology at the Hopkins medical school, has developed a novel method for isolating mouse hematopoietic stem cells (HSC), or blood-forming stem cells.

This new strategy will be useful in the field of stem cell biology as a way to better isolate the rare stem cell populations resident in each tissue, or compartment.

Stem cells have the remarkable capabilities of self-renewal, meaning they can regenerate themselves forever and also the ability to differentiate, or become more specialized cells.

A stem cell can be understood to be an immature cell, poised to become other cells that make up the tissues of the body. These stem cells are responsible for maintaining their specific organ or tissue throughout the lifespan of the organism.

For example, HSC can produce all the cells constituting the blood system, including red blood cells and immune cells like macrophages.

It has actually been shown that one HSC can repopulate the entire blood system of a mouse. Armed with this knowledge, researchers are working intensely to create cell-based medical therapies that will one day cure diseases.

Stem cells are a unique population of cells, not only because they maintain tissues, but also because they divide very slowly and are sparsely numbered.

It is these properties which make isolating the stem cells very difficult for researchers.

Traditionally, the isolation of stem cells has focused on specific cell-surface markers, usually proteins that help identify a cell as a particular type.

These proteins can be characteristic of a certain stem cell or can help to enrich the number of stem cells isolated.

Isolation is performed using a fluorescence-activated cell sorter (FACS) that separates individual cells based on these characteristic surface proteins.

As rewarding as this method has been, it is not without its associated problems. Most stem cell surface markers are dynamic and so isolating cells based on a fluctuating population is difficult.

With this problem in mind, Sharfman developed a new approach to isolating HSC using centrifugation and a strategy known as homing, where the stem cells are drawn to a location in the living organism.

The crucial step in the protocol involves removing the animal's bone marrow, the location where most of the HSC reside.

The bone marrow is then separated by centrifugation, or high-speed spinning. This separates the cells based on their density.

Taking the cells at the correct density, they then undergo a process known as lineage depletion.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.UMICH.EDU](http://www.umich.edu)
A colony of hematopoietic stem cells, which turn into blood cells, can be isolated in the laboratory.

This step separates the HSCs from mature cells, such as red blood cells.

After lineage depletion, this population of cells is stained with a fluorescent dye. The stained cells are then injected into immunocompromised mice, which have immune systems that will not attack the injected cells.

From here, the HSCs "home" to their niche, which is located in the bone marrow. The niche is a protective compartment that regulates stem cells.

After two days of growth in

the mice, the bone marrows are flushed once again and the HSCs are isolated using FACS, which sorts cells based on certain characteristic fluorescence.

The cells that are positive for the fluorescent dye are isolated and these are the HSCs which can then be used for scientific research.

This method of FACS is different from previous methods of FACS because it stains the nuclei of the cells and tracks them based on the nuclear stain, not a cell surface-marker stain.

Not only will this method decrease the variability associated with previous isolation methods, it also uses the innate system of the donor mouse to culture and expand the cells.

The novel method created by the researchers will prove invaluable as research into hematopoietic stem cell biology continues.

This method may also be applied to stem cells in other compartments, although it has not yet been tested in these other tissues or organs.

With the promise of stem cell-based therapies, it is imperative to create standardized methods, which isolate stem cells based on their quiescent, or non-dividing, state.

If this is done, medical therapies will be one step closer to reality for patient with life-threatening diseases.

Distant solar system holds smallest Earth-like planet

By ANN WANG
For The News-Letter

Bringing us one step closer to discovering an Earth-like planet in a distant solar system, a team of European scientists recently found the smallest extrasolar planet orbiting a main-sequence star yet.

The planet, Gliese 436c, has about five times Earth's mass and orbits the red dwarf star Gliese 436 in the constellation Leo.

The team, led by Ignasi Ribas of the Institut de Ciències de l'Espai in Spain, analyzed perturbations in the orbit of a previously known, Neptune-like planet that circles the same star.

They found that these perturbations could be explained by the presence of a smaller planet whose orbit is outside that of the known planet — Gliese 436c.

More than 280 planets have been discovered orbiting other stars, but the majority of these are more similar to Jupiter and Neptune than to Earth and Mars. Much larger than Earth and gaseous, these exoplanets are unlikely to have surface liquid water or be able to sustain life.

Gliese 436c is one of a group of exoplanets known as super-Earths. Super-Earths have 10 times Earth's mass or less and have a similar rocky composition.

Gliese 436, like the Sun, is a main sequence star at the mid-

point of its life span. It is about 30 light years, or 180 trillion miles, away from Earth.

As a cool red dwarf star, its average surface temperature is less than 3,600 degrees Celsius. In comparison, the Sun has a surface temperature of about 5,800 degrees Celsius.

Despite being similar in size and composition to Earth and orbiting a similar star, Gliese 436c probably does not contain surface liquid water.

Like most other rocky exoplanets previously discovered, it orbits so closely to its star that the planet's surface temperatures would be too high for liquid water to exist.

Gliese 436c completes an orbit once every five Earth days — one year on this planet is only five Earth days long, while one of its days is 22 Earth days long.

However, as scientists develop better and better techniques for sensing extrasolar planets, the discovery of an Earth-massed planet should not be far in the future.

Extrasolar planets are much more common than once thought, with an estimated ten percent of main sequence stars having planet systems.

The discovery of an Earth-like, rocky planet that is far away enough from its star to allow for liquid water, and the possibility of life, is foreseeable within the next decade.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.NASA.GOV](http://www.nasa.gov)
A NASA artist's rendering shows the star Gliese 436 and its Neptune-like planet.

Smoke affects lung growth, gene expression

By APURVA YELURU
News-Letter Staff Writer

Doctors and scientists have known for years that cigarette smoke has a range of damaging effects on the human body. In adults, excessive smoking can cause emphysema, a condition in which the lungs become rigid and brittle.

Babies and young children are particularly susceptible to the effects of second-hand smoke.

A team of Hopkins researchers led by Sharon McGrath-Morrow, a lung specialist from Hopkins Hospital, observed the effects of cigarette smoke in newborn mice to quantify its effects.

In the study, two groups of mice were exposed to cigarette smoke: newborn mice and their mothers, and six-week old mice. Some subjects in both groups were comprised the control group, but the rest were exposed to cigarette smoke for two weeks.

During the first week of the study, the mice were exposed to one hour of cigarette smoke per day. This time increased to two hours per day during the second week of the study.

Two weeks in mice is comparable to about two years in humans, so the study's results would be relevant to newborn babies and infants.

At the end of the two weeks, all the eight-week old mice and half the two-week old mice were sacrificed for observation. The other half of the two-week old mice were sacrificed when they turned eight-weeks old to look at



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.SMOKINGLUNGS.COM](http://www.smokinglungs.com)
Dark coloration and large holes in these lungs indicate smoking-related emphysema.

the long-term effects of early exposure.

Lung growth was obviously impaired in mice exposed to smoke. Lungs mostly grow after birth, especially in the first two years of life for humans, but continue growing through adolescence.

Alveoli, little sacs inside the lung where the exchange of gas into the bloodstream occurs, are the most crucial part of the lung; these are the most susceptible to damage caused by cigarette smoke.

In the study, it was observed that the number of alveoli in the eight-week old mice was modestly lower than in a healthy

mouse. Alveoli are the site of oxygen absorption in the lungs, so a decreased number of alveoli can cause hypoxia, or low oxygen levels in the blood.

The lung cells were subjected to oxidative stress, a negative effect of reactive oxygen introduced by toxic materials in the environment.

Cell death was also noticed by the researchers, at a much higher frequency than ever noticed in adult mice, suggesting that neonatal lungs are much more sensitive to cigarette smoke than adult lungs.

The study also led to another surprising observation: Cigarette smoke affects gene expression in the lung cells. It was found that 754 genes were repressed, or expressed at lower levels than normal, due to smoke.

Ten percent of these are genes involved in the immune system of the lung. These genes code for proteins called interferons, which are produced in response to pathogens in the body.

Thus, lungs become more susceptible to foreign agents like viruses and bacteria, and more prone to infection.

The researchers concluded that exposure to cigarette smoke in the early years of life significantly damages lungs more than exposure in the later years of life, affecting the growth, function and immunity of the lungs.

The effects of early exposure to cigarette smoke are more lasting, and, in humans, much more detrimental than later exposure.

Facial structure can predict promiscuity

By ALICE WU
News-Letter Staff Writer

An often unspoken fact among dating-aged men and women is the notion that men are naturally more inclined towards one-night-stands and short-term sexual relationships while women prefer a long-term relationship.

Results from a psychology study led by Lynda Boothroyd of University of St. Andrews in Scotland presents new evidence for this social stereotype.

Believe it or not, a person's face tells much about his or her sociosexual orientation, or which type of relationships (long or short) they prefer.

This tendency of a person to engage in a short-term sexual relationship can be assessed by the Sociosexual Orientation Inventory.

A high SOI score indicates that the person is more unrestricted, or open to short-term relationships, while a low score represents a restricted sociosexuality, or a tendency for long-term relationships only.

Based on SOI, researchers have found that female observers are able to categorize sociosexual orientation of a member of the opposite sex based on cues from his appearance and body language.

Boothroyd's study focuses more on visual assessment of physical appearance alone in relation to a person's sociosexual orientation.

Previous studies have indicated that greater masculinity in

physical appearance often translates into a greater proclivity toward short-term relationships, while females who were less restricted rated themselves as being more physically attractive.

People with higher SOI scores also demonstrate more symmetrical facial features as compared to those with lower scores.

Based on these results, Boothroyd's team hypothesized that those who are more open to short-term relationships should be more physically attractive.

To test their hypothesis, the team used two types of tests: observer judgment and preference based on composite facial images, which are digitally constructed mixes of several photographs, and the second based on photographs of real faces.

For the first test, facial composite images were used to detect subtle structural differences between those who are more unrestricted, or in other words are physically more masculine or feminine.

They were compared with those who are restricted, and whether or not observers can detect these differences and pass judgment.

The underlying hypothesis for this test is that if an observer is able to identify an individual's sociosexual orientation, it would affect the probability of the observer to pursue a long-term relationship with the individual.

Overall, the results indicated that female observers were able to tell the difference between a restricted male composite versus

an unrestricted one, while male observers were not able to distinguish between female composites.

Unrestricted female composites were found to be viewed as significantly more attractive and feminine than restricted composites by observers of both genders, while male composites were seen as significantly more masculine.

Observers were asked to assess paired images for attractiveness as a long- or short-term partner and to distinguish between faces that looked more open to short-term relationships.

It was found that judgments of attractiveness and relative masculinity or femininity did not correlate with judgments of sociosexuality.

For the second test, photographs of real faces were assessed based on questions such as: how likely is this person to have a one night stand, and how likely is this person to think sex without love is okay?

Responses were scaled on a level from one to seven, with seven being most likely. Results showed that a physically restricted looking face in fact does indicate that the individual is less willing to engage in a short-term relationship.

The study found that males do prefer females with unrestricted profiles, who are more visually attractive and who are more open to short-term relationships, while females have a higher preference for males whose profile indicates that they are more open to long-term relationships.

THE SMOKING GUN: CHEMICALS IN TOBACCO

According to the National Cancer Institute, there are over 4,000 distinct chemicals in smoke from cigarettes and cigars. Some of these are found in the tobacco plant, and others are additives or are produced when the cigarette burns. Here are a few:

Acetone: nail polish remover

Benzene: a highly toxic and cancer-causing (carcinogenic) chemical used in several industrial processes

Carbon monoxide: a gas

that prevents blood cells from transporting oxygen

Arsenic and cyanide: poisons used to kill rats, insects and fish

Methanol: rocket fuel

Hydrazine: rocket fuel

Napthalene: moth balls

Formaldehyde: preservative used to embalm corpses

Metals including nickel, zinc and polonium

Bioterrorism detection gets a boost Cancer's effect on immunity is studied

Hopkins improvements on DNA-based techniques allow faster and more accurate surveillance

By BARBARA HA
News-Letter Staff Writer

Hospitals are likely to be the first line of defense against a bioterrorism scare if one were ever to occur. A slow trickle of exposed or infected patients could show up in the emergency department with a range of symptoms.

Rapid and reliable detection of the bioterror agent is the key to combating it successfully. Hopkins researchers have made a great leap forward with the development of a new test for potentially dangerous bacteria.

Many infectious diseases produce similar types of generic symptoms, which occasionally makes them difficult to diagnose under the crowded conditions of an emergency department, or ED.

Most people who walk into an ED with flu-like symptoms of cough and body aches will turn out to have a simple case of the flu, but how can you detect the rare instances where something is more serious?

One current method used to identify disease-causing pathogens such as bacteria or viruses involves the identification of the pathogen through its DNA sequence.

Every organism — from the simplest bacterium to humans — can be identified by its DNA signature, a fact that doctors and scientists often take advantage of.

DNA is analyzed, both in the laboratory and the hospital, by a reaction called PCR, or the polymerase chain reaction, which makes a large number of copies of any DNA molecule so it can be further isolated and tested.

The problem is, PCR and as-

sociated tests can be very slow. When a sample of blood containing bacteria and infected cells is drawn from the patient for testing, the bacteria has to be cultured or grown in a laboratory until the pathogens are concentrated enough to be analyzed using PCR. This means that a sample cannot be reliably identified immediately.

A group of doctors at the Hopkins Hospital emergency department and the School of Medicine's department of immunology has developed a way around some of these problems.

The group, lead by infectious disease specialist Charlotte Gaydos, has published a two-step process that homes in on specific pathogens from a small sample.

The Hopkins team redesigned the PCR to fit the pressing needs of the emergency department. Their method involves two steps.

First, a general PCR is used to detect the presence of any bacterium in the patient sample. This test is non-specific — it cannot diagnose a specific illness — but it can help doctors quickly narrow down which patients are actually infected.

The second stage allows testing

for specific pathogens that are categorized by the government as Class A bacterial biothreat agents, the most potentially dangerous.

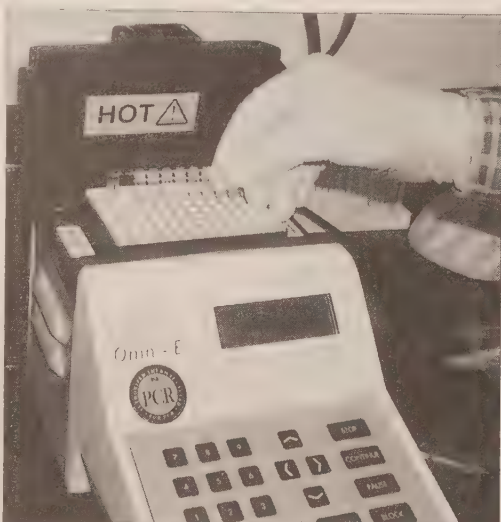
The current version of the test allows detection of the bacteria associated with anthrax, plague and tularemia.

The method was fairly successful in rapidly narrowing down infected test cases from a larger population. Genetic testing remains a promising way to identify pathogens with high specificity and confidence, and further adaptations such as this will make the tests more reliable and rapid.

Early detection is crucial in preventing an outbreak of a bioterrorist attack or even a non-terrorist-related epidemic. Many pathogens spread quickly, so early intervention is key.

The relatively straightforward PCR reaction is quick, cost-effective and easily adopted by emergency departments and hospitals across the country.

Although the preliminary tests is not yet ready for widespread use, early indications are promising that a new generation of biothreat tests will soon be developed.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.UC.EDU
The common PCR machine may soon be used to detect bacteria.

By SAM OHMER
News-Letter Staff Writer

Many disease processes involve the manipulation of the immune system. In many cancers, tumor cells are able to evade the immune system, which would ordinarily attack the offending cells, thus prolonging their survival.

The general mechanism for this has been known for a few years. Cancerous cells are able to proffer modified surfaces designed to trick the immune system, the body's defense system, into not attacking the deadly cells.

Research in the laboratory of Takeshi Azuma of the Hopkins School of Medicine looks into this fact as a way to understand the biology of cancers.

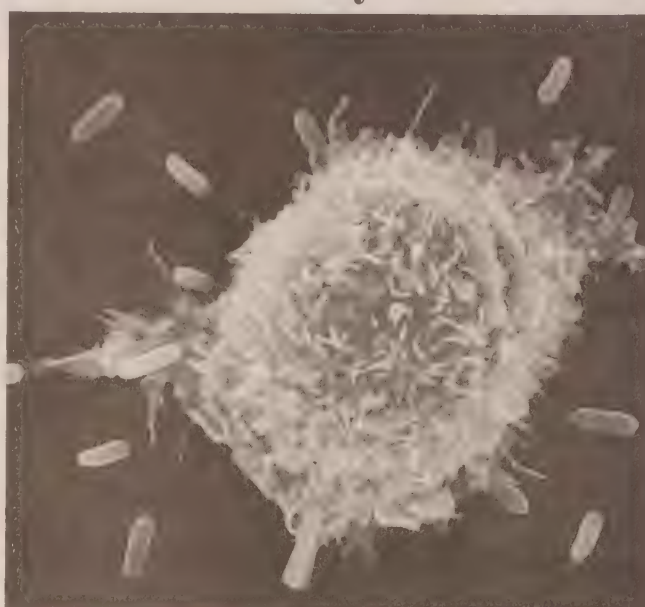
The cancerous cells use their modified designs to hide from the immune system as well as to infiltrate, attack, overwhelm and take over the body's healthy cells, leading to the growth and spread of the cancer, unchecked by the body's protective lymphocytes.

The team thinks it has found a molecule that regulates tumors' immune-evasive abilities. This molecule is known as B7-H1. It works as an immune suppressant, bombarding the body's T-cells, immune cells in the lymph system that protect the body from invading cells, with inhibitory messages.

This inhibition acts as a negative feedback on the immune system, allowing the cancer to continue to grow and spread unchecked.

B7-H1 doesn't just stop the T-cells from working, though; it induces a host of anti-immune behaviors, such as apoptosis, or death of T-cells, the decreased immune response by T-cells and even T-cell exhaustion. These factors all combine to mean that T-cells can't do their job: to protect the body.

The bright side of this dreary story is that T-cells can be turned back on and can resume their auto-protective duties if B7-H1 is turned off, according to new



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.WIKIPEDIA.COM
A cancer cell (large, center) is being attack by several T-cells, an immune response.

work in Azuma's lab.

However, this on/off ability has several probable causes, and in order to determine through exactly which mechanism the whole process works, the team has studied B7-H1 and its purported receptor PD-1 under several conditions. Their work has led to a better understanding of the mechanism by which the two interact.

One of the potential mechanisms is that B7-H1 creates some sort of physical barrier between tumor cells and the T-cells meant to kill them. This would help explain the selectivity of T-cells against attacking the cancerous cells protected by B7-H1.

However, another hypothesis postulates that the T-cells aren't physically blocked but rather simply deactivated temporarily via some signaling pathway.

A third and rather interesting idea regarding B7-H1's immunorepressive role is that when B7-H1 interacts with a T-cell, it then starts to transmit cautionary messages to other cancer cells nearby, helping them to become immuno-resistant and to survive an attack by T-cells.

According to Azuma's team, the third postulated mechanism seems to be the most accurate. The group engineered B7-H1 and PD-1 proteins that had impaired signaling abilities and expressed them in cancer cells under experimental conditions.

The team used these proteins to test the mechanism and found that with this impairment, the cancer cells could not relay protective information to other cancer cells, and lysis, or killing of the cancer cells by T-cells as well as anti-cancer drugs, proceeded as expected.

This would seem to suggest that both B7-H1 and PD-1 play their own part in tumors' immune-evasion.

B7-H1 appears to "warn" cancerous cells, promoting the ability to withstand immune responses, and PD-1 appears to have some power to disrupt the normal functioning of T-cells, leading to further immune suppression.

Now, thanks to this line of research, there exists a possible mechanism that scientists and doctors could potentially manipulate in order to better combat cancer.

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter



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YOUR NEWS-LETTER

Engineers get artsy with video contest

By CARA SELICK
Your News-Letter Editor

While campus may be abuzz with the excitement that often surrounds elections for Student Council, a handful of students are more anxious about a different set of votes. Last semester the Whiting School of Engineering announced its first WSE Video Competition, and 12 groups jumped at the chance to show that Hopkins students can be creative when it comes to promoting our great engineering feats.

Contestants had to create an entirely original video. It could be anything from a film noir to a documentary to a romantic comedy, as long as it was about engineering. All full-time undergraduate and graduate students at Hopkins could apply, whether they were enrolled in the Engineering School or in the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, and researchers also got the chance to join in the fun and self-promotion, as long as their group included at least one student.

Perhaps the most important of the few criteria involved in the contest are the themes. Every video had to fall under one of the following categories: 1) It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time, 2) A Day in the Life, 3) A New Discovery and 4) How it Works. However, these categories proved to be extremely broad, as several videos under the same heading all turned out to be completely different from one another.

For instance, A Day in the Life contains everything from a wild hunt for a MechE in his natural

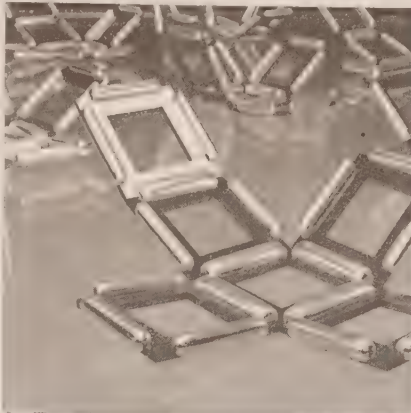
habitat to a trippy montage of machines. And A New Discovery ranges from a humorous video about fictitious inventions to an actual report of a new needle that will possibly revolutionize surgery.

The Digital Media Center (DMC) was an extremely helpful and integral piece to the video puzzle for many of the competitors. The DMC was readily available not only to lend out any filming equipment necessary to produce the videos, but to teach the creators how to use them as well. In fact, the center went so far as to host an Intersession course to help best prepare for the contest and create a professional-looking piece.

One such piece is "Hands On" created by seniors Alexander Mo and Cindy Fei. This video takes a unique approach, using only the hands of students to show their different adventures throughout the day. The camera follows Hopkins students' hands to testing sites, classrooms, laboratories and, ultimately, a poker game. The video is well-edited and has some pretty cool effects, most likely in credit to the skills gained from the Intersession course.

Another well produced film was "Self-Assembling Nanoliter Containers" by senior Dave Filipiak, and graduate students Mustapha Jamal and Tim Leong. However, despite its aesthetical prowess through 3D graphics, the video has a more direct and

serious purpose. The creators are researchers with Dr. Gracias and have been working to create, well, self-assembling nanoliter containers! "The Gracias Group researchers have spent countless hours developing and refining their projects and I wanted everyone to have something to look back on years down the road," Filipiak said. "In addition, we wanted to promote Hopkins engineering



COURTESY OF DAVE FILIPIAK, MARTIN RIETVELD
Nanoliter containers self-assemble in student video.

to the country and the world and show what our students are capable of accomplishing. To be completely honest, from the very first minute we started this project, we were in consensus that we weren't doing this for the cash prize. There were far more important motives, including the aforementioned."

This may sound like a lofty goal, but, in fact, Filipiak's statement keeps in tune with the competitions' ultimate objective. Abigail Lattes, the director of marketing and communications of the Whiting School of Engineering, affirms that a large purpose of the competition as a whole is to show to prospective students what life at Hopkins is really like for an engineer. Lattes claims, "They want, and deserve, authentic perspectives on the school." She also believes that the videos "illustrate aspects of life here that can't be captured in a view book or on a campus tour." Not to mention many of them are interesting and funny!

Freshman Elliot Mahlof believes that humor is the most important aspect of his video "Engineering in the Kitchen." "I want people to get a laugh out of my video," Mahlof said. "It is probably marginally about engineering and more about me making a fool of myself. So hopefully I make the viewers at least smile!"

Of course, even the sillier videos, such as Mahlof's, have a larger function than simply entertaining viewers. The competition allows for those participating to have a deeply rewarding experience as well. Mahlof insists that "the video was impor-

tant to me because it allowed me to express my creativity, which is something I do not normally get to do here at Hopkins taking science course after science course. So it was definitely a nice change of pace for me."

Alex Mo agreed, saying that "This video project also allowed me to do something completely different than what I normally do during the school year and concentrate wholeheartedly on it. It was definitely an experience I will cherish for years to come."

Even Mustapha, who worked on one of the most research-driven and informative films in the bunch, concurred that the competition is more than just advertising new discoveries. "The WSE Video Competition allows us engineers to show our creativity in ways that are seldom possible in the classroom," he said. "It's also our chance to show the Hopkins community and society at-large that engineering can actually be exciting, and dare I say it ...

fun!"

The videos will also hopefully be posted on sites such as YouTube to further promote the engineering school and its students' work.

The videos are to be judged by a diverse panel both within the Hopkins and Baltimore communities on criteria such as creativity, technical merit and how well the video promotes some aspect of engineering. However, everyone else can vote as well! While there are cash prizes for first through third place according to the judges, there is also a people's choice award. Therefore, anyone can go to the WSE Web site, view all the videos and vote for their favorite one! Not only will voters help somebody who worked hard to gain some recognition (and spending money), but they may just actually learn something while at it ... and maybe even laugh!

At the very least, the competition serves as an event to unify our often divided campus. All too often science people do science things and arts people do arts things, and the two never join forces. However, the WSE Video Competition works to eliminate this gap. Lattes notes that "activities like this — ones that bring together students from different majors, that combine efforts of arts & sciences and engineering students, for a fun purpose — are a great way to help build community on campus ... a good thing, in my opinion."

Videos can be found at <http://engineering.jhu.edu/video/competition08/peopleschoice.html>. Voting ends on Monday, April 21.



FILE PHOTO

Close proximity to others while studying can be problematic if someone has B.O.!

Body odor, smelly feet, MSE stinks! (Literally)

By ELYSHA CHANG
For The News-Letter

Tonight was supposed to be an uber-productive evening at the library. I brought my laptop; I brought my Milton anthology; I got a double shot of espresso in my latte. I was pretty much ready to rumble as I made my descent into the bowels of the library.

I marched down to C-level where I marked my territory (read: Spread my stuff everywhere before I went to get a coffee) at a brightly-lit cubicle.

I'm not going to lie and say it came out of nowhere, but suddenly — and I'm sure other cubicle dwellers from tonight will agree — this incredibly pungent, strangely robust stench basically punched me in the face.

I rarely, if ever, complain about the poor quality of life in the basement depths of the library. It isn't anyone's fault. After all, MSE opens at 8 in the morning and closes at 5 the following morning. There are people who sit, eat, sleep, live here in this basement all day. Literally.

I know this, because — I reluctantly admit — I've done it before. As a result, there's never any toilet paper in the bathroom, the air is kind of heavy and stuffy, and there's always that lingering scent of coffee mixed with sweat and asbestos.

And, of course, there are bound to be people who forego that daily or weekly shower in order to gain an extra 20 minutes at the library.

That's fine. I totally understand. School is an important part of life, and sometimes there just aren't enough hours in the

day for mundane activities like brushing one's teeth or showering or peeing. Smells? To be expected.

But this? This was just beyond my comprehension. It wasn't like one of those smells that you just sort of adapt to and forget about. This bad boy came in waves.

Just when I thought I couldn't bear it anymore, it would withdraw. But I knew it would be back. It always came back.

And just so you know that it wasn't just me being neurotic and prissy, in the half-hour that I was at my cubicle, three (Three!) different people sat down in the cubicle next to me, started studying, almost vomited and then left in a hurry. One person every 10 minutes is a pretty high turnover rate for one of the coveted C-level cubicles, if you ask me.

Long story short, I've moved to a different part of the library. I'm now sitting at an utterly inferior cubicle with no light. My coffee rush is gone, and I can't focus, all thanks to C-Level Body Odor.

What exactly is the evil behind CLBO? Do the librarians secretly spray it as a means of compelling students to leave the library and get some rest? Or is someone refraining from bathing as a means of improving their class rank at the expense of the studies of their peers?

Is this the extra-competitive Hopkins-student edge that people warned me about? Is CLBO the newest tactic in student rivalry? Is it me?

A desperate plea from the writer: while school is pretty important, please be considerate of your fellow library-mates and at least take a shower!

YOUR tracks

Baltimore has found its way into my iTunes in different genres and styles. Here are my picks for the top 10 songs about Baltimore.

1. "Baltimore," by Nina Simone

The High Priestess of Soul herself recorded a reggae/soul song called "Baltimore" for her album of the same name. The lyrics paint the scene for you: "Hard times in the city/in a hard town by the sea/ain't nothin' here for free ... Oh, Baltimore/man, it's hard just to live."

2. "Baltimore," by Among Wolves

An upbeat song with a sound eerily similar to anything off of *Pet Sounds* about a man leaving the city he loves for a woman he loves more. Typical.

3. "Good Morning Baltimore" by Nikki Blonsky

I don't think John Waters set out to have his 1988 movie be a musical but it sure lent itself well to the format. The opening song to the 2007 movie covers everything from the rats on the corner to the flasher down the street. It encapsulates the John Waters's Baltimore very well.

4. "Back, Back, Back to Baltimore," by Collins and Harlan

The recording of this song from 1905 has warped the lyrics into complete jibberish, except for the chorus. But making up the words to it is hilarious and fun.

5. "Streets of Baltimore," by Gram Parsons

This song has been covered by everyone from Norah Jones to Coldplay and it's a particularly hokey song about a man who brings his woman to Baltimore where she is seduced by the city lights.

6. "Baltimore," by Tori Amos

Rumor has it that Amos recorded the song under her first name, Myra Ellen, in 1979 for a contest to pen the new theme song for the Baltimore Orioles. She won.

7. "To Whome You Were Born" by Lungfish

The Baltimore band (heck, they live in Charles Village) was a dominant force on Dischord Records and remains one of Baltimore's most respected bands. This song, if memory serves, was declared by Ted Leo as one of the best songs about Baltimore at his famed Ottobar blackout show two years ago.

8. "Jail Flick," by Diablo

I won't begin to postulate what the lyrics to this song mean, but I can't deny that this song caught national attention on *The Wire* soundtrack for his hard, and real, portrayal of Baltimore life. At one point he shouts out to different streets of Baltimore, creating a map of the city through his song.

9. "Clap Hands," by Tom Waits

While this song isn't traditionally about Baltimore, it features Tom Waits's trademark gravelly voice intoning devilish lyrics concerning Charm City, and for that, it deserves a spot on this list. The particular honor of inclusion in a Waits song falls to only a handful of cities, and Baltimore is lucky to have made the cut.

10. "I hear Baltimore is nice this time of year," by Sorry about Dresden

This song may be only about Baltimore in name, but it's a really beautiful, rough-edged song about finding the silver lining.

By JULIA DISCHELL
News-Letter Staff Writer

As much as I'm bad at using it, I love technology. I am definitely one of those people that cannot accomplish anything involving the computer without checking my e-mail and Facebook every five minutes. It is absolutely imperative that I know exactly what is going on with everyone I know all the time.

However, the one thing I cannot live without is my cell phone. I've had one since my mom gave it to me for Christmukkah back in seventh grade and I have not been without it since. If it is not with me, I feel completely naked.

My dependency on this device is not my worst issue, however. I always forget to turn the sound off. I stupidly figure that my parents should know by now that I am and have always been in class at 11 in the morning. Also, they are never anything important. It's always like "Hey ... just wondering how you are ... call me back," etc. I was so notorious for having my phone go off at inopportune times in high school that I bet most of the students could tell you what my ring tone was. What is surprising, though, is that I have never once had my cell phone taken away from me. I have, however,

been chastised for the interruptions. In my opinion these are the absolute worst times to have your cell phone ring:

Number 9: While in the bathroom. There are many different circumstances that fit in this category. If you pick it up while on the toilet, how will they know? Depends on how much sound you're making or how constipated you are, I guess. What happens when you're done though? Will they hear the toilet flush? How can you wash your hands? I also would not recommend answering the phone while in the shower. I am pretty sure your phone might not survive it, and maybe you won't either.

Number 8: While drunk. This is a tricky situation and completely depends on the person. Are you one of those people who becomes increasingly unintelligible with each shot of vodka? Or are you one of those lucky few who discovers new language abilities while drunk? In this situation it is important to know yourself and your limitations.

Also, it depends on who is calling. Best friend from home? Why not, they will probably make fun of you later, but still love you. Your mom? Better let that one go to voicemail.

Number 7: During class. Bad timing, but not terrible. As cell phones become more and more common, teachers are used to this by now.

They might sigh, tell you to turn it off, but there probably won't be any major repercussions. It is much better to have your phone ring during a big lecture class versus a small seminar. You might manage to wake some people up.

Number 6: During church, temple, etc. This is a little worse than going off during class, but I feel like people here are probably somewhat used to it too, and once again, you will probably wake some people up. The level of inappropriateness changes depending on what kind of service it is.

Number 5: During an interview. This would probably hinder your ability to make a good impression, especially if you have a cutesy/offensive ring tone.

Number 4: At a funeral. Never a good place to have this happen, unless it is during the procession and that is essentially OK. During the eulogies is probably the worst time, especially if your ring tone is "Stayin' Alive" by the Bee Gees.

Number 3: While giving oral sex. This was originally going to be sex in general, but you can technically be on the phone while having full on intercourse. That is not really the most considerate thing to do, but it is physically doable. However, I think it is nearly impossible to give head while on the phone, but I suppose you could use the vibrating option for something.

Number 2: While on D-level. OK, I admit it, I've never actually been on D-level, but I've had my phone go off on C-level and a lot of people were really angry. It is funny, though, because no one cannot yell at you because then they would be breaking the rule they are trying to get you to follow. I assume D-level would be worse, especially during reading period, and honestly, do you really want all the curve breakers mad at you? Probably not.

Number 1: During an AP test. While we are all past the AP test taking age, I think this is worth mentioning. If your phone rings during one of those tests, they disqualify not just you, but *everyone* in the room. I had at least 150 people in each of my AP tests, and that is a large number of people to have angry at you at one time.

CARTOONS, ETC.

your Horoscope

Aries: (March 21 - April 19)
Nate Hale is best known for being America's first spy, but he is still a hero in Connecticut.

Taurus: (April 20 - May 20)
Is this what it's all about? Reading horoscopes to tell you the future? Here's your reading for this week: Tomorrow will come.

Gemini: (May 21 - June 20)
The idea of horoscopes only appeal to me if they tell me lottery numbers. What should your picks be for this week? 12, 26, 9, 89, 57.

Cancer: (June 21 - July 22)
Undisputed world champion hot dog eater Kobayashi probably thinks about hot dogs when he's eating other foods like cereal or yogurt.

Leo: (July 23 - August 22)
Knockout good looks and short skirts won't guarantee you free drinks at a bar. You have to have a stimulating mind to boot.

Virgo: (August 23 - Sept. 22)
Game consoles are not friends. They are machines without feelings. You cannot count your Playstaton as a significant other.

Libra: (Sept. 23 - October 22)
King Tut was 18 when he died and he'd been ruling his kingdom for 10 years. Does that make you feel kind of insignificant?

Scorpio: (October 23 - Nov. 21)
At what point does sleeping in become an all day event? Noon? Three in the afternoon? Eight at night.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
His and Hers bathroom sets are annoying and wasteful. Everybody knows his gets dirty more and he secretly uses hers.

Capricorn: (Dec. 23 - January 19)
Old flames calling you up and asking you out is cute. Old stalkers calling you up and asking your whereabouts is creepy.

Aquarius: (January 20 - Feb. 18)
Band in high school was quite possibly the most sexually active social group. That is still very, very true.

Pisces: (Feb. 19 - March 20)
Camp was really fun when you are 12, but stop telling us the freaking stories about the first "real" boyfriend you had there.

Sudoku

			7		2				3
							9		
						4	6	8	
7	8			5	3		4	6	
6			7		4				5
5	4		8	6			9	7	
4	7	2							
			6						
1				3		5			

Trivia Time

1. Who wrote "Lord of the Flies"?

2. What is the national color of Scotland?

3. What is the national sport of Canada?

4. Who assassinated JFK?

1. William Golding, 2. Plaid, 3. Lacrosse, 4. Lee Harvey Oswald

Random Information

by Natachi Chukumerije

Comicali

by Joe Micali

Wasted Ink

by Nate Min

A Photo in Time

by Nate Min

Having outsourced the Constitution writing duties to Shanna

W

e, the student council of Johns Hopkins University, fearing for our resu-
més, we have elected to rewrite our constitution in order to appear more accessible to the student body while still maintaining the same mindset and principles as before. To that end we have made the informed decision to outsource the constitution writing duties to Shanna Doogan, local kindergarten student and legal whiz kid.

Preamble: We, these people, in order to form a differently structured union, have changed the structure of our organization to establish secrets, insure administrative tranquility, provide for the selling of Krispy Kremes, promote the general apathy and secure the blessings of a solid resumé and contact list for ourselves and out posterity so we do write this constitution upon the finest grade construction paper known to mortal man. Amen.

Article 1. Establishment.
Sec. 1: From henceforth, the body formerly know as the student council shall be referred to as the Johns Hopkins University Bake Sale & Cool Representative Association Playgroup.
Sec. 2: The playgroup will consist of one supreme warlock/witch to control all other playgroup members. The warlock is permitted to pretend to have magical powers and may or may not demonstrate those powers as he/she sees fit.
Sec. 3: Each class shall elect four master bake sale liaisons responsible for planning the only fundraising event heretofore sanctioned by this constitution: the bake sale.
Sec. 4: All new members must sign a top-secret diary of secrets and wishes. They must also write down one secret or wish that they've never told anybody before, not even their dog/cat. Said diary is to be kept under the pillow of the presiding warlock. Should anyone find and read this diary the warlock must resign his/her position and run away, at least two blocks, with a serious intention of never coming back, ever.

Article 2. Bake Sales
Sec 1: Bake sales shall consist of super special mom brownies and funfetti cake or cup cakes. Krispy Kreme doughnuts must always be present. Any inclusion of tree nuts is strictly forbidden. (See clause on impeachment of playgroup members.)
Sec. 2: All details of secret brownie recipes must be kept secret. This means you can't even tell your best friend unless he/she is in the playgroup.

Article 3. Impeachment of playgroup members
Sec. 1: Members may be impeached for breach of aforementioned rules as well as:
-hogging apple juice at snack time
-having too much apple juice before meetings and giving yourself a bellyache rendering participation in the meeting difficult
-not sharing
-saying dirty words
-the Overfeeding of Zazoo the Council Gerbil
*For further information please refer to Zazoo Handbook, page three.

Article 4. Absences and voting.
Sec. 1: In the event that the council president cannot attend weekly meetings, veto power and responsibility shall be vested in Zazoo.
Zazoo's cage will be placed in the center of the circle, everyone sitting Indian style around it. When he takes a sip of water, that's a yes. When he does stinkies in his cage, that's a no. When he falls asleep the meeting is adjourned.
Sec. 2: All votes are simple majority. In the event that a majority vote cannot be reached, Ouija board will be consulted. In the event of an emergency, Ouija readings need not be conducted around campfire.

Article 5. Secrets and tree house privileges.
Sec. 1: Everything the playgroup does must be a secret. It isn't fair to tell people — even your best friend or your mom — other people's secrets. Someone's feelings might get hurt, and then you are a meanie which negatively impacts the entire group.
Sec. 2: All meetings are to be conducted high in the branches of the pine tree near Charles Street to the left of the Beach in a tree house which this constitution commands be constructed. A secret fairy elevator that runs inside the trunk takes you up to the very top of the tree where a tree house sits. It appears very tiny but once you walk in there is enough room for everyone. There is unlimited apple juice and frosted animal crackers. Grown-ups cannot see aforementioned tree house so they never come inside. Meetings are to be held here at sunset every week.*
Thank you,
Shanna Doogan,

Jackie Jennings
Irreverent,
Wacky Fun!

SPORTS

W. lax gives UVA their 400th win W. tennis still perfect in Conference

By ERIC GOODMAN
News-Letter Staff Writer

History was made at the University of Virginia's Klöckner stadium on Sunday, but not in the Blue Jays' favor. Fourth-ranked UVA (11-3) defeated the 16th-ranked Blue Jays (6-7) 17-6 as the Cavaliers collected the 400th win in program history. For Hopkins, the loss was the third in the previous four games.

UVA struck hard and fast, scoring the first nine goals of the game. Six different Cavaliers scored during the opening run, including a hat trick by midfielder Ashley McCullough, UVA's leading scorer, and two by sophomore Kaitlin Duff.

"I really can't recall being in a situation where we were down my that many so fast," senior Kadie Stamper said. "It really took the wind out of our sails and made it too hard for us to come back at that kind of deficit."

"Hopkins finally got on the board with 8:01 left in the first half, as senior co-captain Kirby Houck fired a shot past UVA goalkeeper Kendall McBrearty's shoulder to make the score 9-1. The Cavaliers would answer that goal exactly two minutes later, but Hopkins ended up scoring the next three goals. Two came before halftime, the first by sophomore Brett Bathras on a dodge down the right side and the second by Stamper on a feed from fellow senior and co-captain Lauren Schwarzmunn with just over a minute left in the half.

"At half time, Coach Tucker was just saying that we need to get our attitudes kicking and that the game is not lost, and that we just have to come back one goal at a time. She always reads the halftime stats to see where we are struggling and at this time, ours and UVA's were very comparable, but the goals were just

ance goals, including the fourth of the game for McCullough and third of the game by Baltimore native Brittany Kalkstein.

The Blue Jays finally answered in the last 10 minutes, with Stamper and sophomore Paige Ibello scoring a goal apiece, but the Cavaliers scored two more goals in the last 3:30 to make the final score 17-6.

Stamper's two goals, the 85th and 86th of her career, moved her into a tie for eighth place on the Hopkins Division-I career scoring list. Schwarzmunn's assist and goal moved her into eighth place on the all time Hopkins Division-I points list with 110. The 11-goal final margin was Hopkins' worst loss since a 22-6 thrashing last year against Northwestern. Hopkins did have more ground balls and saves than UVA, but UVA outshot Hopkins 35-24 and committed four fewer turnovers.

The Blue Jays have three games left on their regular season schedule — at undefeated, top-ranked and three-time defending champion Northwestern on Friday, at Penn State on April 26 and at home versus Ohio State on April 28.

"We are pumped to play Northwestern this Friday," Stamper said. "They are a great team, and we're going to have to bring our 'A' game, but they are beatable and we want, and need, the win!"

dropping for them and not us," said Stamper.

Trailing 10-3, Hopkins got off to a faster start in the second half. Schwarzmunn scored two minutes into the second half on a dodge down the middle to cut the deficit to four goals. But Hopkins then went more than 20 minutes without scoring, and UVA was able to take advantage by padding on five more insur-

ance goals, including the fourth of the game for McCullough and third of the game by Baltimore native Brittany Kalkstein.

The Castignoli plot is only the most recent chapter in a long history of curses, superstitions, all-out brawls and intense competition that has thrived between the two teams since the early origins of the game.

The Red Sox-Yankees rivalry has stood the test of time; however, many other rivalries tend to fizzle out over the course of the game. Growing up in New England, I was raised as a New England Patriots fan. As part of the uniform, I quickly grew a deep

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12
over Lydia Bull and Allison Daciek.

At first singles, Washington's Daciek made the overall score of the match to 3-1 with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Matava. Bhamidipati's win put any thoughts of a comeback attempt for Washington to rest, when she improved her record to 15-2 on the season with a 6-0, 6-1 win at second over Shore woman Rebecca Davis. Elamir then clinched the match for the Blue Jays with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Palmer at third. This was Elamir's 11th-straight win and it moved her to 13-1 overall. At fourth, Dwyer dropped a 6-3, 6-4 match to Hossick. Disappointingly, the final two singles matches of the day, were called due to darkness. Both were in the third set.

The win over Washington was an extremely important one, and it definitely set the stage for the Bryn Mawr match that would take place only a few days later, carrying with it hopes of coming back to Baltimore with a win. Following some comments about last week's performance, senior Stephanie Carr added another to the team's continuing success.

"I think that we can attribute our success to our efforts to remain focused with the time that we have on the court," she said, also explaining that spring can be a tough time of year to get some good workouts in. "Due to weather, our court time can be limited. So with the encouragement of our coach, we do our best to make sure we maximize our use of the courts with drills focused on specific problem shots and tons of practice matches."

As the ladies headed north to Bryn Mawr, it was definitely clear that their dedication to practice would pay off. The Lady Jays came out victoriously, marking the fifth consecutive shutout of Bryn Mawr.

Hopkins soundly swept all three doubles matches to take a



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Sophomore Ellen Berlinghof swings for a wide return in one of her singles matches.

3-0 lead right out of the shotgun. Bhamidipati and Mataya teamed up once again to beat Karen Ginsburg and Marie Sager 8-3 at first. The Elamir/Berlinghof combination at second shut out the competition, beating Leah Raj and Anna Dejar 8-0. Freshman Abby Dwyer and sophomore Amanda Schubert won the final doubles match of the day, by a score of 8-1 over April Lee and Melissa Mansh.

In the singles matches, the Jays put one last nail in the Bryn Mawr coffin when they swept all six matches in straight sets. Bhamidipati won at first and her ninth-straight match with a 6-2, 6-2 wins over Ginsburg. Matava improved her season record to 17-7 with 6-0, 6-0 wins over Mimi Nguyen at second. Elamir lost only one game while beating Sager at third to add another tick mark under the "W" column

for her, making it 12 straight. Her teammate, Dwyer, also only lost one game on the day, winning at fourth over Mansh.

Winning her 10th match of the season with a 6-1 win over Lee, Schubert was at fifth. Bringing up the rear was Berlinghof, when she beat Marianne Leung without losing a game to make her record 12-4 for the year.

This coming week, Hopkins will head to Westminster, Md. to face conference rivals McDaniel College (0-8, 0-8) on April 16. McDaniel has been win-less so far this season, and the Lady Jays intend on keeping it that way. On April 19, Hopkins then hosts Ursinus College at Homewood. Ursinus is 6-8 on the season and 1-7 in the conference. Both matches should be interesting. The end of the season is quickly approaching, and the Jays have their eyes on that national title.

The beauty and madness of the American sports rivalry

I sat in the nosebleeds of the parents' section at Homewood Field this weekend, watching what I consider to be one of the greatest rivalries in the sport of college lacrosse: Hopkins vs. Maryland. The stands were packed on both sides, and the fences surrounding the field were lined with fans of both schools, peering over the side to catch each moment. TV cameras zoomed in on the field. The roar of chants, shouts, insults and pounding boom sticks permeated the air. It was a scene that made me proud to go to Hopkins, one of the rare moments when late-night library sessions and academic pressures seemed to take a backseat.

One of my good friends from home, another avid lacrosse fan, made the trip from Towson just to catch the game. As we sat among the screaming toddlers with painted blue faces, we started talking about the great rivalry between the Blue Jays and the Terrapins. And, as most of our discussions tend to do, our friendly conversation quickly escalated to a vehement argument over the greatest rivalry of all time.

He'd lived in Maryland his entire life, and I was born in Massachusetts, living there for the first 10 years of my life, so of course, our sports loyalties often clash. His vote went to the recent, but still intense, rivalry between the Baltimore Ravens and the Pittsburgh Steelers, and I sided with the easy pick: the age-old nemesis of the Boston Red Sox and the New York Yankees.

I'm still fully convinced that I'm right, and recent news supports me. Last summer Gino Castignoli, a construction worker and dedicated BoSox fan, was working on the construction of the New York Yankees' new stadium when he decided to leave behind a little relic of his favorite team. Castignoli buried a David Ortiz (Red Sox DH) jersey under the private seating section of the developing stadium with the hope that its constant presence in the home of Boston's rivals would leave some sort of curse upon

the Yanks. This week, an anonymous caller alerted the Yankees' head office and after five hours of searching, officials found the fateful jersey. The Yankees plan on spinning the prank in their favor by auctioning the jersey to charity.



Demian Kendall
Out of Left Field

Castignoli's action proves just how crazy the Sox-Yanks rivalry can get and what great lengths the two teams' loyal followers will go to gain an edge.

The Castignoli plot is only the most recent chapter in a long history of curses, superstitions, all-out brawls and intense competition that has thrived between the two teams since the early origins of the game.

The Red Sox-Yankees rivalry has stood the test of time; however, many other rivalries tend to fizzle out over the course of the game. Growing up in New England, I was raised as a New England Patriots fan. As part of the uniform, I quickly grew a deep

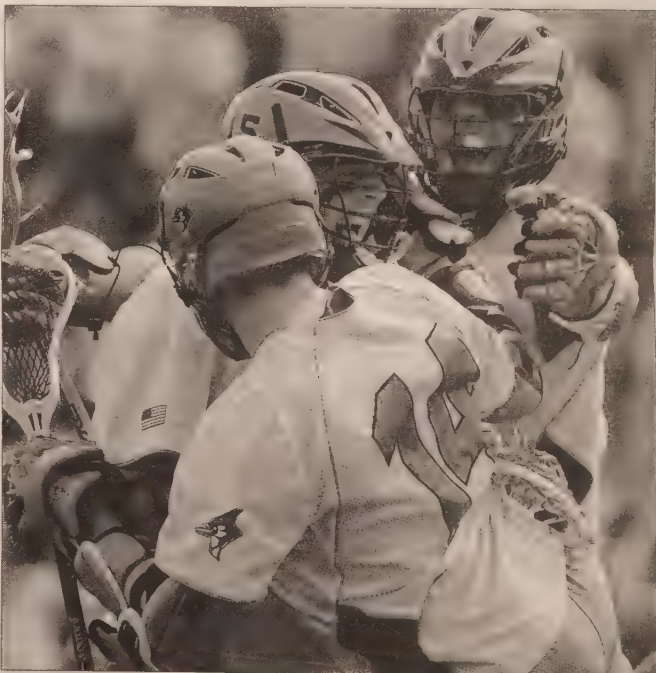
hatred for the New York Jets. However, as the Patriots have developed as a team, gone through numerous victories and upsetting defeats, the conference-rivalry with the Jets seems to have diminished.

The competitive dynamic between quarterbacks Tom Brady and Peyton Manning seem to have fueled a new rivalry with the Indianapolis Colts. Last season's massive upset at the Super Bowl (I still haven't quite recovered, by the way) will inevitably fuel yet another intense rivalry with the New York Giants, fueled, of course, by Boston's contempt for New York sports.

I think that Hopkins lacrosse is no different. As of now, Maryland is the team's ultimate rival. With stadiums merely 40 minutes away in a state that thrives on the game of lacrosse, the intense rivalry has created a polarization of fans between the two schools. However, the sport is developing. New teams are finding massive success in the game. Through my experience watching lacrosse, I've seen the origins of what could be a very intense rivalry emerge between Hopkins and the recently-emerged powerhouse of Duke. Combining last year's nail-biting National Championship game with this season's blowout at Durham, both teams seem to have it out for each other.

A similar rivalry could emerge with Syracuse. Hopkins and Syracuse are tied for the most National Championship wins with nine each, and the struggle to emerge on top could make for some heated competition.

One thing is for sure: These intense rivalries definitely make the game more interesting. As my hatred for the Manning brothers gets stronger and stronger each day, I anticipate the upcoming NFL matchups more and more. It makes the game exciting and more fun to watch. As of now, the extent of my personal fandom doesn't go much farther than watching the games and arguing with my friends, but as the pressure builds, who knows? Maybe someday I'll find myself in the middle of Giants stadium with a Brady jersey slung over my shoulder and a shovel in my hand.



SHIV GANDHI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Paul Rabil, Michael Kimmel and Michael Doneger celebrate after Doneger's goal.

M. lax destroys crosstown rivals in Homecoming relief

CONTINUED FROM B12
everything in our power as a team to get the win. We realized positive things happen when we play together," Walker said.

Walker scored back-to-back in the flood of offense. He was sandwiched with goals by senior midfielder Paul Rabil and senior attack Michael Doneger, who both executed hat tricks against the Terps.

Before the time expired, Hopkins and Maryland each got two more goals to keep the six-point difference intact.

Success for the Blue Jays undoubtedly started in the face-off square, where they took control of the ball the first four times, with three of those wins by Peyser.

"Stephen really did a terrific job," freshman midfielder Matt Dolente said. "I was able to relieve him when he needed a break, but he took the majority of the draws and dominated."

Dolente made five appearances in place of Peyser, who notched only one face-off loss, allowing the Jays to go 15 for 18 in draws on Saturday.

"It's a great boost to your team when you can win draws the way we did. It allows you to play looser knowing that you will get the ball right back," Dolente said.

Having initial possession of the ball also factored into the Jays getting on the board early. A

minute and a half into the game, Rabil outmaneuvered the coverage on him and fired the ball through the shooting lane created by the other members of the Hopkins offense.

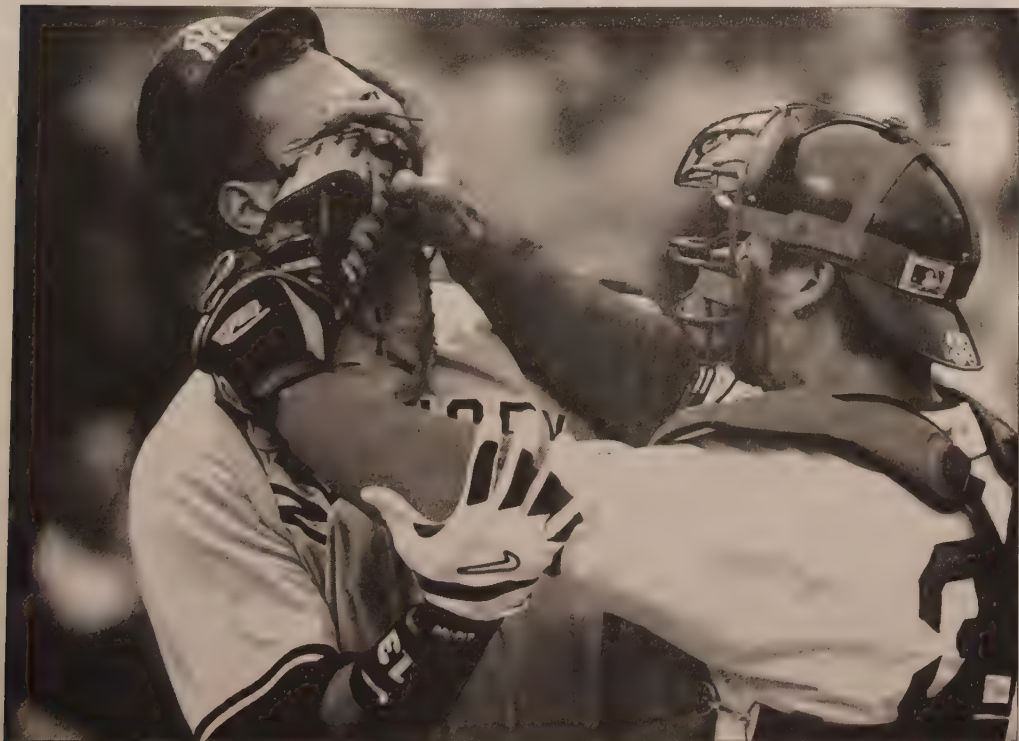
"It was as unselfishly as we have played all year," assistant coach Bobby Benson said.

The defense also displayed some genuine teamwork, keeping the Terps' number of shots-on-goal in check to take the weight off sophomore goalie Michael Gvozden, who has delivered below-par performances in the past few weeks.

"We weren't following [head coach Dave Pietramala's] details as closely as we should have, but I think our seniors have done a good job of addressing that issue. Hopefully we can turn our season around now," senior defensive midfielder George Castle said.

If this course-correction is permanent, it could be the beginning of another perennial Blue-Jay playoff run. With Pietramala at the helm, Hopkins has yet to miss a NCAA tournament berth. However, only four more games remain on the schedule, so the clock is running to salvage what was formerly a highly-touted season.

The team looks to regain a .500 record when they head to Annapolis to play Navy this Saturday at noon.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.BOSTON.COM

Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek smears the face of Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez in a classic BoSox v. Yankees fight.

SPORTS

Men's tennis causing quite a racket with 9-0 record

Continued from Page B12
sophomore Dan Myers said about the weekend.

The domination didn't stop on Tuesday when Hopkins faced Haverford. The men might have been a little worried before they hit the courts — after all, Haverford was one of the only two teams still undefeated in the conference — but they didn't let it show.

"Last year we snuck away with a 5-3 win against a mentally tough team that didn't back down," Weber said. "This year was different. We have too much depth and too much power, and we beat them."

Again, the Blue Jays flew through the doubles matches, making a cozy nest of three victories. Vasoontara and Blythe teamed up for an 8-3 win, followed by Maldow and freshman Jason Wang. Topping off the doubles matches was the senior team of Naftilan and Roberti, whose 8-2 triumph left the Quakers praying for help. The Blue Jays' consistent success in their doubles matches is a testament to how well the men work as a team.

"Too often in a sport like tennis there is awkward tension between teammates, being that players literally compete against each other for spots in the starting lineup. Our team isn't faced with these kind of obstacles," Weber said.

Of course, Saturday's match allowed Naftilan to finally tally that last Centennial win, breaking the Blue Jay record for most career Centennial doubles wins.

Another record shattered as senior Joe Vasoontara

claimed his 100th career victory. This is the first time in Hopkins history that any tennis player (male or female) has made it into the triple digits.

After the Jays' aggressive attack in the doubles matches, Haverford just wasn't able to bounce back. Maldow, Vasoontara and Naftalan all stole their singles matches alongside freshman Andrew Wang and sophomore Pete Vale.

"We were pretty dominating," sophomore David Maldow said.

The Blue Jays shook the Quakers to a 9-0 victory, securing a No. 22 NCAA ranking and improving their overall record 11-5. They hold a 7-0 Conference record, and have only two more Conference matches before tournament play begins.

"We're doing pretty good. We're right on par," Myers said about the team thus far. Weber added, "We could run the table in individual conference matches and that would be pretty special. However, we have our goals geared toward national prominence."

In order to achieve these goals, the men are practicing hard to perfect their game.

"Now, it's just a matter of putting together our strength in the single matches as well as the doubles," Maldow said.

The men will take a swing at Dickinson this Saturday at Hopkins.



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Sophomore David Maldow now holds a 6-0 Conference record.

By MARY DOMAN
Sports Editor

It all started with the number seven.

In seventh grade, junior Kathy Horn joined her school's track team. Throughout middle school and into high school, Horn stuck mostly to running mid-distances, focusing on the 400- and 800-meter. But when she came to college, the number seven struck again.

"After a while I wanted to try something new, and decided to do the heptathlon."

The what? The heptathlon, a track and field event consisting of seven events: 100-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, 200-meter, long jump, javelin throw and 800-meter. When Horn decided to try this new thing, she was really signing up for six "something news."

Competing in seven events over two days is a challenge many athletes are afraid to face. For Horn, though, the challenge is exactly what draws her to the event.

"Kathy has always been excited by the prospect of such an intense task. She constantly tells me how much fun it is and how she looks forward to it," freshman teammate Anita Mikkilineni said. "I'm so proud she did so well, because completing her events is an accomplishment in itself."

Along with the pure accomplishment of completing the heptathlon, Horn has acquired a few other accomplishments as well. This past weekend, she placed fifth out of 15 in the Messiah Multi-Event Meet. She also stands second in the team's top 400-meter dash times of the 2006-2007 season and is the only Hopkins woman to compete in the heptathlon.

"I like the heptathlon, because it shows you what you are made of, and it tests your limits. It's a



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

huge challenge physically and mentally," she said.

And if there's anything Horn loves more than the heptathlon, it's a mental challenge. As a civil engineering major, she's dedicated to giving her best in order to learn. This attitude is what made her pursue Hopkins after high school.

"I wanted a place where I could get a good education ... I chose Hopkins because it has a great engineering program."

Her quest for knowledge also led her to the heptathlon.

"I had to learn how to throw a javelin and a shot put, which I had never done before. There's always something new to work on, and there is plenty of room for improvement. Learning the strategies of each event has made me appreciate the sport as a whole," she said.

Though she's learned quite a bit to become such a stellar heptathlete, Horn can't deny that part of her journey was directed pure-

ly by fate. This could be because Horn decided long ago that her favorite of the seven wonders of the world is the Temple of Zeus. Since Horn's birth, the number seven has haunted her. After all, she was born in January, which has seven letters, in the year 1987. Not convinced? There's more.

"I prefer water with a pH of seven." That really confirms any doubts about Horn's unique relationship with the number. Just for curiosity's sake, though, you might also be interested in the following:

1. Horn can easily recite the names of the seven dwarves.
2. She has seven members in her family (if you include her dog).

3. She's read the book *Seven Habits of Highly Successful People*.

4. "SCLUB 7 might be the greatest musical group ever created," she said.

5. She averages seven hours of sleep per night.

6. She loves to drink 7-Up.

7. Ben Roethlisberger, her favorite Steelers player, is number seven.

And she now has a personal list of seven things that involve the number seven. But Horn knows she can't chalk all of her glory up to horoscopes and superstition. She takes quite a lot of responsibility for her success, and works hard to reinforce her natural good luck.

Sophomore teammate Krystina Laucik described Horn as the "epitome of hard work and dedication."

Though you can't explain the mysterious workings of fate, you can acknowledge its presence.

"She has natural talent," sophomore teammate Erika Wheeler quickly pointed out. However, the forces of nature are only part of Horn's hept-abilities, as Wheeler continued, "along with a great work attitude and improves with every meet."

Horn hopes to use all her blessings and hard work to achieve her season goal of finishing in the top three of the heptathlon at this year's conference championships.

After this weekend's performance, it's clear that with a little luck and

a little hard work, Horn's well on her way to glory. Someone might need to tell her role model Zeus to move over and make room for this world's new wonder: Kathy Horn.

VITAL STATISTICS

Year:	Junior
Major:	Civil Engineering, Entrepreneurship & Management
Event:	Heptathlon
Hopkins Highlights: Placed fifth out of 15 in Messiah multi-event meet	

Root for your home team: baseball on a hot streak

The 15th-ranked Hopkins baseball team (23-4, 11-1) successfully swept a doubleheader at Ursinus on Saturday afternoon, winning both games by counts of 5-2 and following up with an 11-4 rout. The team totaled 30 hits in the two games.

The Jays started off strong in the first inning with back-to-back singles. After the first out of the day, a sacrifice fly by senior third baseman Todd Emr brought home the first run.

After a few relatively quiet innings, Hopkins drove in two more runs in the fourth inning. Senior left fielder Jon Solomon blasted a home run over the right field wall, his second of the season. The Bears would not roll over just yet though, adding a run of their own in the bottom of the inning, cutting the Jays' lead to two, 3-1.

Hopkins came right back in the top of the fifth and added another run, but Ursinus followed suit in the bottom of the next frame. After six innings, Hopkins clung to a 4-2 lead.

Junior first baseman Ryan Biner added to the lead in the top of the seventh with an RBI single. Ursinus was unable to respond, and the first game of the doubleheader belonged to Hopkins.

On the mound for the Blue Jays, junior right hander Chez Angeloni increased his win total to four, throwing for 5.1 innings, only allowing two runs and striking out two. Pitching in relief, sophomore Matt Weigand shut out the Bears in 1.2 innings of work and picked up his first save. Throwing a complete game, Zack Engle took the loss for the Bears.

Hopkins came out hot again for the second game of the doubleheader. Right off the bat in the first inning Emr blasted one over right field for a two-run homer.

Adding two more runs in the top of the third, Hopkins increased their lead to 4-0. However, the Bears had a little fight still left in them, and they added three runs of their own in the bottom of the inning.

Hopkins had its own three-run inning too. At the top of the seventh inning, senior center fielder Rob Pietroforte drove home two runners on an RBI single and later was able to score due to a wild pitch.

The onslaught continued in the eighth inning. The Jays drove home four more, with Emr hitting his second homerun of the game, sophomore right fielder Brian Youchak driving home two more on an RBI single, and with Pietroforte hitting a sacrifice fly. It was another Hopkins victory, this time by a count of 11-4.

Picking up his first win of the season, senior right hander Pat Steffee threw five innings of relief and only allowed one run. Louis Serrano took the loss for Ursinus, allowing four runs in five innings of work.

The top three performances for the doubleheader belonged to Emr, Pietroforte, and Youchak. Emr was 5-for-7, scored three times and had four RBIs off of two home runs, a double and a sacrifice fly. Pietroforte, four-for-seven with three runs scored and four RBIs, had two stolen bases, two doubles and a sacrifice fly. Youchak drove home two RBIs while scoring four runs himself, going five-for-eight.

The Jays returned to work on April 15th, scoring 13 runs en route to a 13-2 blowout versus the Red Devils of Dickinson College, to win their sixth consecutive game. Senior right hander Brian Duddie lifted the team in allowing only two runs in seven innings on the mound. The Jays hit the ball extremely well, and Youchak and senior Nate Adelman each contributed a home run.

Like always, the Blue Jays were on the board from the start. With a runner on first, Youchak hit his fourth homer of the year, giving Hopkins a 2-0 lead. With the bases loaded, Biner knocked a sacrifice fly, allowing one more

to score the third run of the game. Sophomore second baseman Lee Bolyard drove home one more in the inning with an RBI ground-out. At the end of the first inning, Hopkins had a comfortable 4-0 lead.

Dickinson was able to score a run off Duddie in the top of the second and off a solo shot by Nicholas Perkins, but the Red Devils were never in this game. Duddie just kept sitting them down, one after another, not allowing more than one base runner in the third, fourth and fifth innings, striking out four.

After a six-run fifth inning, Dickinson was unable to spark a comeback. Biner had his second RBI of the game with a single to left field. Also knocking home RBI singles were Youchak, Solomon and senior DH Matt Benchener. The last two runs were driven home by a passed ball.

Dickinson scored in the sixth inning on an RBI double by Even Hennessy, but at this point the game was far out of reach, with Hopkins having an insurmountable 10-2 lead.

In the bottom of the seventh, Adelman knocked the ball over

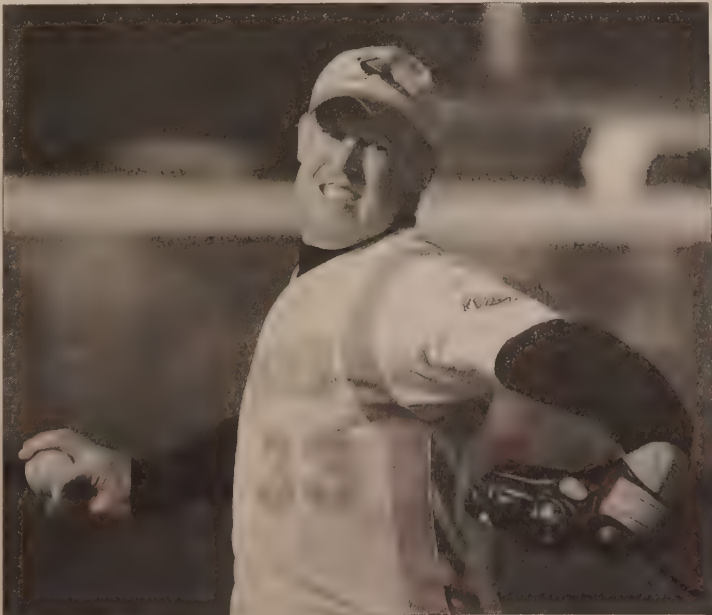
the left field fence with two runners on, scoring the last three runs of the game on his first home run of his career.

Duddie picked up his fourth win, throwing seven strong innings, allowing seven hits but striking out nine. Zach Light allowed 10 runs in less than five innings of work, taking the loss.

The next few games are critical for the Jays, though. The team is confident though. "We've been swinging real well lately, getting 11 or 12 runs a game. Our pitching has been great," Biner said. "We've got Franklin & Marshall this weekend; that'll be a big test for us and important if we want home field advantage in the playoffs," he said. Senior pitcher Ryan Kealy agreed.

"We're playing real well, but we've got a tough stretch the next couple days. These games could really define our season. How we do against Franklin & Marshall, TCNJ and Montclair State will say a lot about us as a team," Kealy said.

The Jays travel up to Carlisle, Pa. on Friday to take on Dickinson again. The first pitch is scheduled for 3:30 p.m.



SHIV GANDHI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Senior pitcher Pat Steffee threw five innings against Ursinus in Saturday's second game.

Crew teams race against D-I and D-II teams at Knecht Cup

By SIMRAN HUNDAL
News-Letter Staff Writer

Both the men's and women's crew teams were able to test their skills against opponents from around the country and confirm that all of their hard work has been paying off this weekend as they competed in the Knecht Cup, their biggest event of the year.

Freshman Andrew Faulkner was especially proud of the team, stating, "We were racing against D-I and D-II schools, and we held our own as a D-III school."

The men's team had some great finishes, especially in the men's freshman/novice eight event where they placed sixth out of 20 boats, making it to the grand final and finishing with a time of 6:22.0 for the 2,000-meter course. In the boat (from stern to bow) were freshmen Alisha Tuteja (coxswain), Andrew Faulkner, William Cooper, Daniel Bagdorf, Christian Honore, George Reynolds, Marc Webb, Steve Cardinali and William Bagdorf.

The varsity eight, from stern to bow, was composed of junior coxswain Madison West, Josiah Drewein (senior, captain), Chris Vaglia (senior, captain), Taylor Reese (junior), Josh Christ (sophomore), Cameron Ward (junior), Dante Ross (sophomore), Pietro Raneiri (sophomore) and Nick Kreston (sophomore). They were able to capture second out of four boats in the men's varsity eight D-II and D-III event with a time of 6:24.9.

The varsity four of Raheel Zubair (coxswain, junior) and sophomores Larkin Luo, Alexander Baish, Jose De La Guerra and Adam Ammar placed fifth in their heat of six boats with a time of 7:36.9 in the men's varsity four DII-DIII event.

The women's crew team also had a solid outing this weekend.

Freshman coxswain Carolyn Pearce, sophomore stroke Nicole Pangborn, freshman three Lauren Thompson, freshman two Alexis Roy and freshman bow Sam Ruff, who comprise the women's novice four team represented the Jays well, placing third in its heat (8:44.50), fifth in the second semifinal (9:09.7) and fifth in the third final with a time of 8:58.4.

Both the varsity four "A" boat and the varsity four "B" boat placed fourth in their respective heats (8:45.5 and 8:43.9). The "A" comprised of freshman Cox Beth Simmons, freshman stroke Pia Heilmann, senior three Clare Blubaugh, junior two and co-captain Katie Blumer and junior bow and co-captain Rebecca Williamson. The varsity four "B" boat boasts junior coxswain Jenna Rossoff, junior stroke Vanessa Damm, sophomore three Roseann Martin, junior two Courtney Cunningham and junior bow Amelia Whitman.

Captain Williamson seemed generally satisfied with the weekend, saying, "Knecht Cup is a really big regatta with teams from all over the country, so I think the outcome was good overall." She continued her enthusiasm, saying, "The women seem to be improving with every race so the rest of the season should see some good races."

This enthusiasm and cohesiveness was reflected within the rest of the team, especially in freshman Linda Zhou, who exclaimed, "I love our team!" when asked about the team this year.

The Mid-Atlantic Division-III Regional Championships, held in York, Pa. on April 26, will be the next stop for the Jays.

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

Pope Benedict XVI was scheduled to make a trip around the bases in Yankee Stadium following a mass held at the New York ballpark. However, the procession will not take place, as the Vatican has been strictly warned to keep the Popemobile off the grass.

CALENDAR

SATURDAY

W. tennis vs. Ursinus 11 a.m.
M. tennis vs. Dickinson 2 p.m.

Homecoming Kings! M. lax tramples the Terps

By ALEXANDER IP
News-Letter Staff Writer

On the strength of a barrage of goals to pull away in the third quarter, the men's lacrosse team collected their first win in over a month. The Jays decisively triumphed over their archrivals, the University of Maryland Terrapins, by a score of 10-4.

The 104th meeting of the two in-state lacrosse golems also coincided with the Hopkins Homecoming weekend, which helped to facilitate a game attendance of 8,600 — nearly double the next largest turnout at Homewood Field this season. The extra members in the au-

dience, which consisted of many alumni, did not bother the Jays who gave an all-around solid effort for the entire 60 minutes.

"We play in front of big crowds a lot. I think we only feed off that energy," freshman attack Kyle Wharton said. "Hopkins has the best atmosphere for

a lacrosse game and the Hopkins-Maryland rivalry is the best in lacrosse. We really wanted to come out and play hard."

The victory was no easy accomplishment for the Jays, who were mired in a record-setting five-game slide.

In the four games prior, Hopkins had at least 12 goals scored on them and simultaneously, the offense wasn't able to pick the team up, netting no more than eight goals in each of their last three games.

"I feel that any and all solutions to our so-called problems have now been found and I think it showed on the field against Maryland," junior midfielder Austin Walker said.

This was demonstrated by the guys playing extremely well in a first half where the Jays kept the pressure on the Terrapin defense with 19 shots, which resulted in Hopkins taking a hard-fought 3-2 lead into halftime.

"We were dominating time of possession in the beginning of the game. It was only a matter of time until the other team started to fall," Wharton said.

Coming out of the locker room, the team continued to promptly set the tone. Directly from winning the faceoff, senior midfielder Stephen Peyser drove straight towards the net to score only four seconds into the second half.

In the span of the six minutes that followed, Hopkins put four more unanswered points on the board. The feat was unprecedented, considering the Terps had outscored their opponents 28-14 this year in the third quarter.

"We made sure we did
CONTINUED ON PAGE B10



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Freshman Alli Lee reaches for a low backhand shot in a match against Bryn Mawr.

W. tennis racks up twin Conference wins

By KATIE MOODY
News-Letter Staff Writer

The women's tennis team destroyed the competition this past week when they beat both Washington College (10-3, 5-2) and Bryn Mawr College (3-13, 0-7).

In a highly-anticipated conference match-up, the 19th-ranked women's tennis team soundly thrashed Washington with a match score of 5-2 on Tuesday, April 8 to mark its 17th-straight Centennial Conference win. They then travelled to Bryn Mawr three days later to shut out the Lady Owls 9-0. With the two wins, Hopkins improved their

record to 11-1 overall and 8-0 in the conference.

In the match against Washington, where the doubles teams were the main focus, the Lady Jays did their job and aced the competition. Doubles team junior Brittany Matava and sophomore Anita Bhamidipati improved their record to 6-0, when they beat out Carrie Palmer and Mary Kelly 8-0 at first. At third, Hopkins freshman Abby Dwyer and junior Debbie Blass went on to triumph over Kate Barston and Kristen Hossick 8-1. Sophomore Ellen Berlinghof and freshman Yasmine Elamir capped off the doubles matches with a 9-7 win
CONTINUED ON PAGE B10



SHIV GANDHI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Senior midfielder Paul Rabil scores a powerful diving shot in Saturday's Homecoming game against University of Maryland.

M. Tennis aces three in weekend matches

Several individual Hopkins players set personal records in the Blue Jays' triple-header week

By MARY DOMAN
Sports Editor

The men's tennis team topped a 2-0 weekend with another win on Tuesday night. In four days, the men blew by Franklin and Marshall, Salisbury and Haverford.

Saturday's match against Franklin and Marshall College of Lancaster, Pa., started off with a bang as all three doubles teams canned the Diplomats. In the first and last matches, the Diplomats lost by a four-point margin. In the second match, freshman Casey Blythe and junior Tripp Weber teamed up to trump their opponents in a 12-0 massacre.

"Our serves and returns are clicking, we are closing points off well, and we are by many accounts the most energetic doubles team in Division III," junior Tripp Weber said.

As the team split into individuals to take the diplomats in some man-to-man action, the momentum from the doubles' matches stayed strong. All six Blue Jays topped the Diplomats, who couldn't scrape up a single win

the entire day.

Sophomore David Maldow snagged his 19th win of the season to break Hopkins's single-season win record in a 6-1, 6-2 defeat of sophomore Diplomat Armen Vartan.

On Sunday, Naftilan tacked on even more wins for the Jays. Unfortunately, the team's match against Salisbury isn't defined as a Centennial match, so the record books lay silent despite a rather noteworthy performance by all the men. Though there were no complete shut-outs, the No. 22 Blue Jays' defeat of the No. 12 Salisbury was a pleasant surprise to Hopkins fans.

Again, the Blue Jays excelled in their doubles performance, piling up three wins right off the bat. The age gap between senior Joe Vasoontara and freshman Casey Blythe was filled with pure talent, as the two tackled their opponents, the Sea Gulls, with an 8-2 victory.

In the singles matches, Maldow swept a quick 6-3, 6-2 win over senior Sea Gull Brendan Kincaid. Seniors Matt Nicholson and Rafael Roberti came out victorious as well, totaling three singles wins for the team.

Salisbury staked three wins in the singles, but luckily

the Jays' doubles performance silenced any rackets from their opponents.

"We were a dominant force,"
CONTINUED ON PAGE B11



CONOR KEVITT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Senior Joe Vasoontara slams a wicked serve on his Haverford opponent.

Senior Matt Naftilan crept close to the record books, as his 23rd doubles victory tied the school record for most career Centennial doubles wins.

INSIDE

Women's lacrosse: blowout in UVA

History was made at the University of Virginia this weekend, as the Tar Heels earned their 400th victory as a franchise. Unfortunately, it was against the Lady Jays. **Page B10.**

Athlete of the Week: Kathy Horn

Competing in track is not easy. Try competing in seven events at once! Kathy Horn, Hopkins's lone heptathlete, does it all the time. Her motivation? It's actually the number seven. **Page B11.**

Baseball: Break out the brooms

The baseball team swept the Ursinus squad this past weekend in a double-header played at Ursinus's campus. What's next for the rallying Blue Jays? Find out on **Page B11.**

KAUST Discovery Scholarship

Full scholarships for science and technology students

The King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), a 21st century graduate-level, research university, is offering scholarships for future leaders in science, engineering, and technology.

The benefits of the KAUST Discovery Scholarship include:

- Full tuition at current institution
- Living stipend, book and computer allowance
- Upon graduation, admission and full scholarship for the KAUST master's degree program at the University's Red Sea campus

The KAUST campus opens in September 2009. Highly talented students with one to two years remaining in first university degree programs can apply now.

Visit www.kaust.edu.sa/discovery or email scholarships@kaust.edu.sa



CONTACT:

KAUST Scholarships
250 First Oak Boulevard, Suite 740
Houston, TX 77027
Phone: 713 021.6100 x23

EDITH HOPKINS

NEWS-LETTER

The Green Issue



WELCOME

Get Green, Hopkins!

In 1971, Dr. Seuss alerted all of the members of the national population aged seven or under to the dangers of industrialization with *The Lorax*. "I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees. I speak for the trees for the trees have no tongues," said the Lorax to the Once-ler, who didn't care about Truffula Trees, Brown Bar-ba-loots, or Humming Fish. All the Once-ler cared about was cutting down the trees and building factories to produce Thneeds as fast as he could.

This is the most frightening book in the world when you are five years old, because you can see factories putting smog in the air and bulldozers clearing land to make more residential space.

Baltimore ranks close to the top on the list of U.S. cities with serious environmental or pollution problems. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has ranked Charm City a "severe ground level ozone nonattainment

area," which means that during the summer, Baltimore and surrounding towns fail to meet the federal health-based standards for ground level pollution, caused largely by sunlight reacting with pollutants from a variety of sources. These include fumes from vehicles and emissions from power plants.

You're holding the Green Guide, a special edition of the News-letter. Maybe we don't own industrial facilities or perhaps even cars, but it's clear that even college students leave wide carbon footprints wherever they go. We hope you'll read on to learn about what you can personally do to save energy, live a healthier lifestyle and become involved with the Baltimore Green Scene.

With all of the industrial progress and careless use of resources in Baltimore, who will speak for the trees now?

— Anum Azam
Special Editions Editor

Green Issue Table of Contents

What is green? Page 3

We break down, or recycle, the facts about what it means to go green. Take our "How green are you?" quiz to rate your level of environmental love.

How to be green Page 6

How clean is your air? How environmentally friendly is your hybrid car? The answers to these questions can be found in this section along with some helpful tips.

Green in Baltimore Page 13

From Baltimore Green Week to a safer bike route, we show you how to take the important steps to make the city a greener place.



WHAT IS GREEN?

Carbon footprints: Leaving your mark on the environment

By **STEPHEN BERGER**

Global warming can sometimes seem abstract, a distant problem far too complex to understand or to affect our daily lives.

Billions of people driving cars, factories spewing pollution and hundreds of oil rigs fueling it all make our individual actions seem small. But each one of us contributes to global warming — and now there is a way to measure that impact.

The carbon footprint is a fairly new idea but one that has already revolutionized the way consumers, businesses and governments think about their decisions.

Simply put, it is an estimate of the amount of greenhouse gas produced by a person, organization or product. Greenhouse gases, which warm the atmosphere by trapping sunlight and radiation, include carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs.

Carbon footprints allow us to compare the degree to which each individual contributes to global warming.

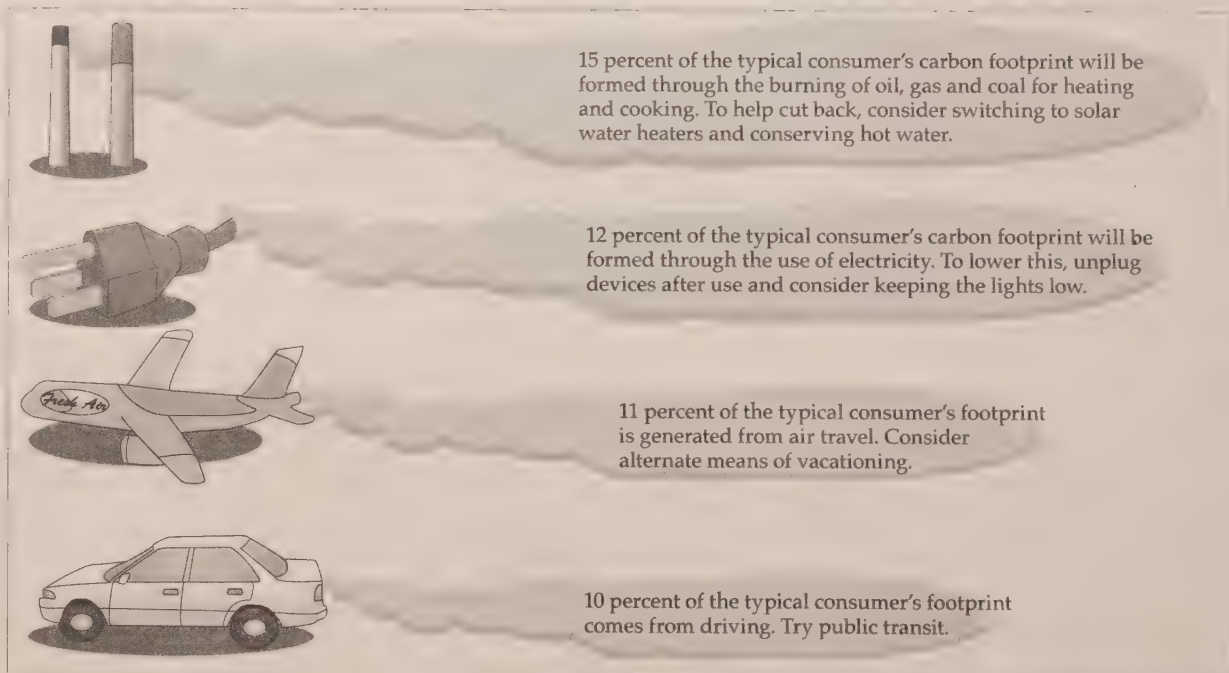
For example, the average American is directly or indirectly responsible for the production of 20 to 25 tons of greenhouse gases each year, according to several estimates from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. The worldwide average carbon footprint is around 5 tons per person each year.

There are many ways individuals contribute to the atmospheric greenhouse gas burden.

Some of them are obvious: Every time you drive a car or fly in an airplane, your carbon footprint increases.

If you drive or fly more often, you will have a larger carbon footprint. And if you drive a truck or an SUV, your carbon footprint is substantially larger than if you drive a Prius or, even better, ride a bike.

But there are other contributors to your carbon footprint. Energy use in the household (or dorm) is a big one; your



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

laptop, desk lamp, air conditioner and hot water for showers all contribute to global warming, either by using electricity — which is often produced by carbon-emitting electrical generators — or, in some parts of the country, burning natural gas for heating.

Other impacts are even more subtle. Every time you buy a product in a store, you contribute to global warming.

That product had to be shipped from somewhere else, whether by truck or rail or air, and these modes of transportation produce tremendous amounts of greenhouse gases, which you are partially

subsidizing with your purchase. Buying locally produced or locally grown products helps reduce your carbon footprint.

The carbon footprint is a fairly new idea, but one that has already revolutionized the way consumers, businesses and governments think about their decisions.

Energy use isn't the only way you produce greenhouse gases, either. Plastic is derived from the same underground petroleum reserves that give us oil and gasoline, so the use and recycling of plastic is counted in many carbon footprint calculations.

The factories that produce plastic (and virtually every other consumer product) release at least some greenhouse gases as part of their industrial processing, and when you buy those products you assume

part of that burden.

Several Web sites allow you to estimate your own carbon footprint based on your use of transportation and electricity, as well as your consumer habits. The EPA's calculator, located at http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html, is particularly thorough — and it calculates how much greenhouse gas you can save by taking several proactive steps.

Every day we are faced with countless choices, each one of which has the potential to contribute more — or less — to global warming.

This is the point of the carbon footprint: knowing how your decisions affect the environment is empowering.

Take a minute to see how your habits compare to those of other Americans, and how you can reduce your greenhouse emissions. You can make simple choices every day to help the environment.

Every year, the United States makes enough plastic film to shrink-wrap the state of Texas.



U.S. ranks 39 on list of "greenest" nations

By ALEX BEGLEY

In January of this year the World Economic Forum published its most recent Environmental Performance Index, and the United States found itself in a less-than-desirable position. Coming in at 39th position of the 149 countries, it looks like the U.S. could take a few tips from other, greener countries.

The index looks at 25 indicators that are divided into three objectives: Environmental Health, Ecosystem Vitality and Climate Change. Those are broken down into nine policy categories like water (effects on humans), air pollution (effects on ecosystems), biodiversity and habitat, and productive natural resources (which is broken down into policy sub-categories like forestry, fisheries and agriculture). Indicators include the environmental burden of disease, adequate sanitation, local ozone, sulfur dioxide emissions, water stress, critical habitat protection and emissions per capita.

The 10 countries, ranked from highest to lowest scores, are Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Costa Rica, Austria, New Zealand, Latvia, Colombia and France. Switzerland had the highest score, 95.5, and France scored 87.8. It's like the Olympics of environmental protection, and it's the best way that top re-

searchers from Yale and Columbia have derived to determine who is the most green.

The five countries that scored lowest on the EPI were Mali (44.3), Mauritania (44.2), Sierra Leone (40.0), Angola (39.5) and Niger (39.1). All of the bottom five are sub-Saharan African countries that lack, for whatever reason, the capital to finance significant environmental changes.

According to the World Economic Forum's Web site, <http://epi.yale.edu/ResultsAndAnalysis>, the United States had a score of 81 and was listed between Argentina and Taiwan. It was the lowest ranking of the historic "Great Eight" with France, Canada (ranked 12th, score of 86.6), Germany (13th, 86.3), United Kingdom (14th, 86.3), Japan (21st, 84.5), Italy (24th, 84.2) and Russia (28th, 83.9) outranking us. Maybe Russia made it out of the Cold War better than we thought. Russia's 6,592,800 square miles and 142,000,000 people were 11 slots lower on the EPI than the United States, which has an area of 3,794,066 square miles and a

population of 303,795,000.

The findings show that developed countries with the resources to make drastic changes to their greenhouse gas emissions scored higher. One reason for the United States' low score was their particularly high score in the environmental health section as compared to the overwhelmingly low score in ecosystem vitality.

Environmental health takes a country's wealth and standard of living into account. However, the low score of 107 in ecosystem vitality brought the U.S.'s overall score way down. In ecosystem vitality, the U.S. ranked below Sudan and Myanmar thanks to poor performance in the areas of reduced air

In Ecosystem Vitality, the U.S. ranked below Sudan and Myanmar thanks to poor performance in the areas of reduced air emissions and climate change.

emissions and climate change. Internationally we know who is going green and who is lagging behind, but what about universities? What are the students doing to spur the green movement? The Grist Environmental News and Commentary blog listed the "Top 15 Green Colleges and Universities" in August 2007. The top five were College of the Atlantic, Middlebury College, EARTH University (in Costa Rica), the Evergreen State College and Oberlin College.

Four of the top five are American colleges and Harvard, Tufts, Yale and the University of Maryland all ranked in the top 15. Thus only four of the top 15 green colleges and universities were outside of the United States. Clearly we have the will to go green, but will our economic and social differences make it harder for us to catch up to our European counterparts who rank lower than us?

College students live the paper-plate lifestyle

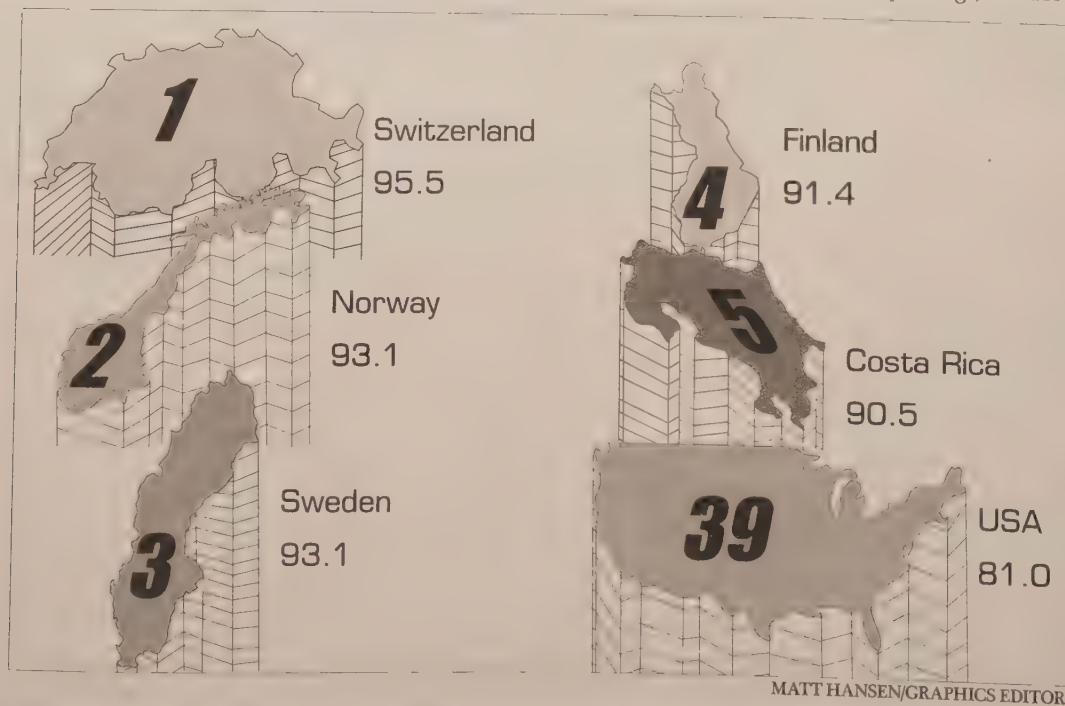
By LIZ SCHWARTZBERG

If you're a college student, you might assume that your impact on the environment is negligible; maybe you walk everywhere or you share a kitchen or bathroom with other people. But think again. The average college student produces 640 pounds of solid waste each year, which includes 500 disposable cups and 320 pounds of paper.

In terms of food, the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates that 96 billion pounds of food are wasted in the United States each year. And the anti-hunger organization America's Second Harvest says that 5 billion pounds of food would end hunger in the United States. At Hopkins, students create waste by using trays in the cafeteria and piling up twice as much food as they can eat. We then end up eating more, throwing away more and creating more dishes and trays that need to be washed. Students also tend to eat a lot of junk food, which wastes packaging, resources and cash. Instead of buying a water bottle every day, you can buy a water filter that attaches to the faucet in your kitchen.

It's very easy to waste energy at college. A lot of students leave their lights, TV and stereo on when they head out for several hours. If you live in the dorms, those actions drive up the University's operating costs — and gives them a reason to raise tuition even more. It's also tempting to leave on your laptop (and your buddy list) overnight, but the one message you might get while you sleep is probably some insomniac checking to see if you're awake to commiserate. With laundry, washing your clothes with hot water can add an additional 500 pounds of CO₂ to the atmosphere each year, so use cold water whenever possible, and don't run more loads than you have to.

We don't need to buy the newest copies of our textbooks when there are people around who don't need their copies anymore. We don't have to drive to the mall to buy new furniture when students are graduating and need to get rid of their stuff. (And they don't need to put their old furniture by the dumpster.) Maybe improving communication between students is one of the best ways to lessen our impact on the environment and to make our campus a friendlier place, too.



Americans toss out enough paper and plastic cups, forks and spoons every year to circle the equator 300 times.

Quiz yourself on your environmental consciousness

By ALEX BEGLEY

Have you ever wondered how wasteful you are? Do you worry about your habits resulting in the slow destruction of the environment? Should you take steps to stop using excess energy and wasting material? Take this quiz to see if you need to change your habits from gross to green.



CONOR KEVTT/
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Do you turn off the lights after leaving a room?

- a) No, there's always somebody at our place.
- b) Sometimes when I don't want to pay a huge BG&E bill.
- c) Always. Every little bit counts.

Do you recycle?

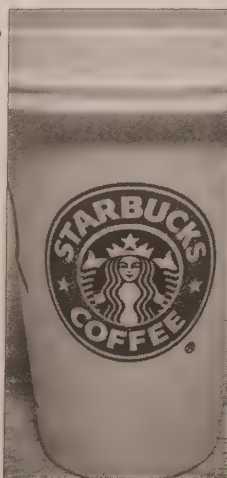
- a) Not really.
- b) I put my empty Aquafina bottles in the campus recycling bins.
- c) I have a recycling bin at home that I take out every week.

Have you switched your light bulbs to CFLs or energy-saving bulbs?

- a) No, I don't like the way the energy saving bulbs flicker when you turn them on.
- b) I will next time the bulb blows out.
- c) I've already replaced my roommates' and my light bulbs with CFLs.

If you drink coffee do you bring your own mug or opt for the signature Starbucks disposable containers?

- a) Who brings their own mug? I'm too busy for that.
- b) I sometimes bring a mug when I have time to make my own coffee.
- c) I make my own coffee at home and use eco-friendly soap to wash out the dirty mug.



COURTESY OF WWW.
BARNETONET

Do you wash your dishes by hand or with a dishwasher?

- a) By hand, but not by choice.
- b) I don't wash dishes.
- c) Dishwasher.

(Fun fact: Washing by hand uses 50 percent more water!)

Do you prefer your water bottled or tapped?

- a) Only the finest water, bottled at the mountain stream.
- b) I don't care.
- c) Baltimore tap water is good enough for me.

What do you bring your groceries home in?

- a) Plastic.
- b) Paper.
- c) I bring my own reusable bags to the store.

Which of these best describes your closet?

- a) My wardrobe is entirely fur and leather.
- b) Urban, Victoria's, Gap, Anthropologie ... the best that Towson Town Center has to offer.
- c) I have a lot of hand-me-downs. I buy American Apparel and from other organic fabric places when I have the money.

How careful are you about what you eat (as in where it came from)?

- a) If I'm hungry, I'll eat it. Especially if it's from a good fast-food place.
- b) I try to buy local and organic stuff, but mostly I shop at Superfresh.
- c) I grow my own veggies in my dorm, and I refuse to sit down at places that don't meet ethical food standards.

How do you feel about the Earth?

- a) It's been here for a bajillion years, and nothing I do is going to change it that much.
- b) I don't really care. The summers are a little hot though.
- c) I love it and will go out of my own comfort zone to protect it.

Do you buy products from companies based on their environmental policies?

- a) I don't know or care what they do for the environment as long as my Doritos are cheesy and crispy.
- b) I buy whatever is cheapest.
- c) Yes. It's more expensive but totally worth it in the long run.

What do you do with old books, clothes, electronics and other things you don't need or use anymore?



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.OCMLNET

- a). Burn them! I don't want my old textbooks to torture anyone else.
- b). I store them under my bed until they don't fit there anymore. Then they move to the hall closet.
- c). I donate what I can to local charities. The rest I give away to family and friends who might need them.

When you need to get somewhere you:

- a). Fill up the Hummer and race my friends to see who can drive from McCoy to Homewood Field faster.
- b). Carpool with friends when we are all going in the same direction.
- c). Walk everywhere. When it's too far to walk I hop on my bike.

When you are walking down Charles Street and you see empty bottles and trash on the ground, what do you do?

- a). It's not my problem. I didn't put it there so why should I pick it up?
- b). If it isn't too gross, like greasy old food containers, I'll pick it up and put it in the trash.
- c). I'll go out of my way to pick up every single piece of trash on the ground and carefully put it in its proper recycling bin.

If your answers were mostly:

- a) You are a free-wheeling individual who maybe just doesn't have time to worry about pollution and environmental harm.
- b) You are on the right track to becoming green, but you haven't made that big move over to solar panels and hemp clothing just yet.
- c) Congratulations! You're so green that you are probably using the paper from this newspaper to papier-mâché yourself a new dining set.

Growing the fiber for one cotton diaper requires 105.3 gallons of water. A T-shirt requires 256.6 gallons, and a pair of jeans needs 987 gallons.

HOW TO BE GREEN

Avoid these ingredients when doing spring cleaning

By SAMMY ROSE SALTZMAN

While most college students are not known for their cleanliness, we do have to clean once in a while for a date or parents. But did you know that while you are listening to bad 90's music and sanitizing your fridge, you may also be harming yourself and the planet? So before you pull that bleach out of storage to scour the bathroom, check out the list below to find out about harmful chemicals and the products which contain them.

Luckily, there are many products on the market today that do not use these ingredients. You can also make your own cleaning supplies using simple ingredients such as baking soda, vinegar, hydrogen peroxide, lemon juice and olive oil. For more information on picking safe cleaning supplies, go to <http://www.ecolabels.org>.

Alkylphenol ethoxylates (APEs) have been found to mimic natural hormones like estrogen. Fish in many areas of the world are seeing a population reduction because the males are becoming feminized or infertile. APEs are common ingredients in laundry detergents, stain removers, and all-purpose cleaners.

Ammonia is poisonous when swallowed, and when inhaled is extremely irritating to respiratory passages. Ammonia also burns skin on contact. Ammonia solutions (5-10 percent by weight) are often used in household cleaners, especially those for glass surfaces. Be especially wary of mixing these solutions with strong oxidants or products containing chlorine, such as household bleach. This mix will form a variety of toxic compounds which have been found to cause cancer.

Butyl cellosolve (aka butyl glycol, ethylene glycol monobutyl) can be found in oven cleaners. It is poisonous when swallowed and when inhaled, has been shown to cause lung-tissue irritation.

Chlorine bleach (aka sodium hypochlorite), a whitening agent, is incredibly dangerous. Not only can chlorine bleach irritate the lungs and eyes, but when poured down the drain and into the waterways, it can become a toxic organochlorine. Organochlorines are organic compounds which contain at least one covalently bonded chlorine atom. These chemicals, when improperly disposed, present problems with groundwater pollution because they degrade so slowly. High levels of Chlorine has been found in human breast milk and in a variety of marine animals.

Nitrosamines, which are carcinogenic, are created when Diethanolamine (DEA) combines with nitrosomes (often-undisclosed preservatives). Nitrosamines can penetrate the skin and are often found in tobacco smoke and latex products (though the amount used in condoms is expected to be non-toxic). Party balloons were also found to release small amounts of nitrosamines into the air. Nitrosamines can also be found in the form of nitrates as a preservative in processed meat and cheese products.

Phthalates (pronounced, thay-lates), are frequently used in to carry fragrance in a variety of products such as glass cleaners, deodorizers, laundry detergents and fabric softeners. These chemicals have been linked to repro-

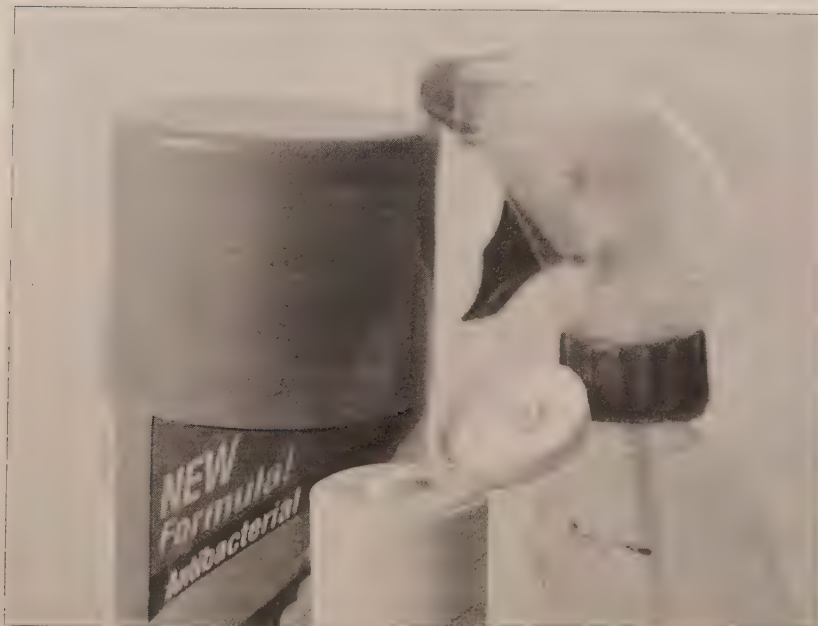
ductive abnormalities and liver cancer in lab animals. Phthalates have also been found to increase asthma and allergic reactions in children, affect the developing reproductive system in male children, and reduce sperm count in adult men.

Phosphates, used as a water-softening agent in detergents, are known to help algae grow in our waterways. Algae blooms can overtake the aquatic environment by preventing smaller plants from getting sunlight. When these plants die their decomposition takes away dissolved oxygen from the water. It is this lack of oxygen in the water which has been found to kill off fish populations.

Sodium hydroxide can be found in many drain, metal and oven cleaners. The chemical is extremely irritating to eyes, nose and throat and can burn those tissues on contact.

Sodium lauryl sulfate, is found in just about every personal care product you can find. A common sudsing agent, sodium lauryl sulfate is an ingredient in soaps, shampoos and toothpaste. The chemical can penetrate the skin and has been shown to cause contact dermatitis.

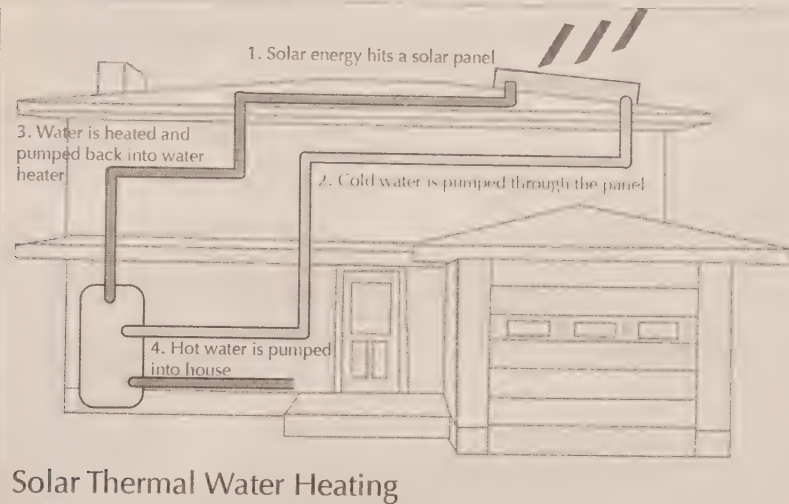
Triclosan, an ingredient found in many antibacterial cleansers, is thought to be contributing to the rise of antibiotic-resistant germs. The ingredient can be found in deodorants, toothpastes, shaving creams, mouth washes, and cleaning supplies. Triclosan is also now often infused into products such as kitchen utensils, toys, bedding, socks and trash bags.



CONOR KEVIT/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Many household cleaning products can cause dangers to consumers' health and the environment.

The average American will consume 43,371 cans of soda in his/her lifetime.



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Using solar energy: Here comes the Sun, so let's plug it in

By JOHN KERNAN

The Sun continuously provides 174 petawatts of energy to the Earth. For those not familiar with the petawatt scale of energy, such power is sufficient to send about 825,000 DeLoreans, each using 1.21 gigawatts, back in time. At the same time, solar photovoltaics (that's converting sunlight into electricity) only accounts for about .04 percent of the world's energy, or only about 12,400 megawatts. We could barely send one DeLorean back in time with the combined efforts of all the world's solar cells.

So what's holding us back? There is a huge, free source of energy literally waiting in the sky for us. Why not take advantage of it?

Solar power is difficult and expensive to come by. When you divide all those petawatts over the whole of the Earth's surface and subtract what was bounced out of or absorbed by the atmosphere, you get a potential output per square foot that is, at best, sad. What's more, solar cells are not totally efficient, so a lot of the light that does hit a cell is lost anyway.

The obstacle to overcome with solar power is grid parity. Parity is reached when it is equally or less expensive to use electricity generated by a solar source as it is by using other methods, making it possible to incorporate the solar grid into the existing power grid. As technology improves, solar power becomes cheaper and cheaper per kilowatt. President Bush has set a target date of 2015 for grid parity in the U.S. as a whole, while energy experts predict grid parity in just sunny areas by 2015.

To encourage development of solar technology while it is still economically inefficient, many local governments provide subsidies and tax incentives. This measure effectively lowers the price of power and artificially reaches a grid parity state in some areas. In English, the government pays power companies to produce solar power in the hope that they will continue to develop it.

A much more common and vastly cheaper method of harnessing the Sun's power is through the tapping of solar thermal energy. Thermal energy plates can trap the heat of the Sun with good efficiency, though they do not transfer the heat into electrical power. Pools, for example, often use low-temperature versions of method to heat their water. A medium-temperature system can provide the hot-water needs for most residential and commercial buildings for free, almost indefinitely. It is, however, expensive to set up, costing about \$5,000 for an average home. However, since the system negates any need to heat water after its installation, it pays for itself in reduced energy costs after about nine years. Thus, solar thermal energy is attractive not only to those worried about their personal carbon footprint but also to those who want a sound long-term investment.

The Sun, in the end, is the ultimate source of power for our civilization. Its energy is nearly limitless, produced by fusion millions of miles away where we needn't worry about nuclear consequences. If humanity is to continue to grow technologically and socially, we will eventually need to completely embrace the Sun.

Beautify the Earth and your face with organic makeup

By KATLYN TORGERSON

If you've been watching television lately, you may have seen an advertisement for Physicians Formula's new Organic Wear line of makeup. It claims to be the first makeup ever certified by Ecocert in the United States. It is, but there are plenty of other organic makeup options on shelves in this country. So why do they advertise its certification?

Makeup, generally, is not a staunchly controlled market. The FDA bears the burden of regulating it, but products are normally not subject to extensive testing before they go to market.

The FDA does regulate labeling, though. There are plenty of ingredients in makeup that are pretty unpleasant to think about having on your face, and the packaging also tends to be wasteful, as tons of plastic are used in compacts, which are rarely reusable.

So how does one find good, safe, Earth-friendly makeup in a market that the government barely regulates? Look to outside regulatory bodies and find what they've certified.

That's why Organic Wear is such a big deal. Ecocert is a respected certifying organization that was founded in France in 1991, and now Americans can have another reliable option when shopping for the right organic or green-friendly makeup.

Organic makeup, like other organic products, tends to be pricey. Organic Wear is a nice option, since it's a drugstore cosmetic line, and is a little bit less expensive than some of the other options. Their products range from \$6.95 for concealer to \$13.95 for the powders and bronzers. The line includes the basics, but currently has no eyeshadows or lip colors.

All of the packaging is recyclable, and the compacts use 93 percent less plastic than traditional compacts. The applicator brushes are also a nice touch, as they are made of all-natural goat hair.

But this isn't an advertisement for Organic Wear. There are plenty of other options on the market, but be a conscious buyer — check out the claims on the packaging and look for certified makeup to be sure you're getting

what you're looking for.

It doesn't hurt to do a little research either, as there are loads of international certifying organizations and makeup lines to choose from. Naturisimo is a U.K. company that offers a wide variety of organic and natural brands. They list the full ingredients for each of the products they offer, and there are tons of products to choose from. It's a great way to research products but not necessarily the best place to buy them.

The exchange rate is painful on the pocketbook, and it's easy to find a product and then go directly to the maker's Web site or retailer in the States to pick up the item. A number of the brands included on Naturisimo's Web site are American, and finding the product domestically will almost surely save you money. There are also lots of other ways to go green with your beauty routine. Look for environmentally friendly makeup bags. Many organic makeup companies offer eco-friendly bags, often reusing discarded materials.

Also consider organic shampoos and conditioners. Aubrey Organics offers one of the best conditioners out there — and it uses 100 percent natural ingredients. If you're looking for a complete organic beauty experience, drop by Sprout in Hampden, which uses all organic products, to get the haircut or dye you're looking for.



COURTESY OF WWW.RAECOSMETICS.COM

Organic cosmetics provide a green way to look beautiful.

Two ounces of ethylene glycol antifreeze can kill a dog, one teaspoon can kill a cat and two tablespoons can kill a child. Put that on a high shelf.

School's out for the fish that live under polluted waters

By ANUM AZAM

What happens when you pour dangerous chemicals down the drain in chem lab instead of neutralizing them or disposing of them properly? Your concentrated waste joins the myriad other strange fluids (you don't want to know the specifics) that comprise the Baltimore sewage system and, practically unchanged, ends up in the Chesapeake Bay. There, it becomes responsible for the totally nondiscriminatory mass murder of fish and all the other aquatic life with which it comes in contact. You're a fish killer.

But it's worse than that. Fish know when they are dying but are almost completely helpless in preventing their imminent deaths; they usually simply can't swim out of dangerous waters fast enough.

Did you know that there is no manmade

Fish living in toxic waters or eating diseased organisms will become sick. Indeed, fishermen often catch sick fish.

water toxicity sensor that acts as quickly and accurately as the bluegill, a delightful and adorable sunfish common in the Bay area, in determining emerging water toxicity threats? There isn't. The Army's best biotoxicity sensor works by measuring and analyzing changes in fish behavior; if the fish detect toxic conditions, the device takes water samples immediately and calls or e-mails authorities.

Fish such as the bluegill respond to a wide range of compounds and can rapidly detect metals, cyanide, organic solvents and pesticides. They cough (sort of a flexing of the gills) in order to expel undesirable particles from their breathing passages. The city of San Francisco has actually installed several \$110,000-units in its bay area, which function to detect different kinds of fish coughs, compare them and transmit the cough rate data to nearby computers. But good luck finding the machines — the Army and the state intelligence service won't reveal their exact locations. The security of the state of California would be compromised. The bluegill population in the San Francisco Bay has been drafted to help combat terrorist threats to the water supply. And San Francisco isn't the only major U.S. city to take fish-coughing patterns seriously.

So when you pour your nitric acid down the drain because you just can't wait to get out of lab, you're effectively destroying the local protectors of your safety and freedom, who are simply trying to do their jobs, patrolling the waters of the Chesapeake Bay and snacking on little crayfish.

And what if you just pour a little bit of something almost harmless down the drain? No harm done, you may think. However, even if you don't immediately eradicate entire schools of fish, the effects of your negligence will manifest themselves in other ways. Fish living in toxic waters or eating diseased organisms will become sick. Indeed, fishermen often catch sick fish. Even processed and well-cooked fish with diseases can make the people who eat them extremely ill.

So unless your only exposure to freshwa-

ter marine diversity is through Swedish Fish Aquaculture, you know that the balance of life in freshwater environments is delicate and its destruction would be tragic.

Just take the extra five minutes needed

to dispose of your chemicals the right way, or neutralize them before sending them in a downward spiral of doom down the drain. You will be saving fish lives, and maybe even human lives.



These fish died as a result of the improper disposal of chemicals. Pouring chemicals down the drain ultimately causes mass fish death. COURTESY OF FLORIDAFISHFARMS.COM

Keep your indoor air clean with these pointers

By LIZ SCHWARTZBERG

Indoor air pollution is an often overlooked problem that can damage our health, aggravate allergies or asthma and increase our risk of lung cancer. While proper ventilation is key to improving air quality, we can prevent certain pollutants from even entering our homes in the first place. Mold, bacteria, carbon monoxide, radon and allergens are some of the most commonly found pollutants found indoors.

There are some very simple ways to reduce air pollution in your home. Use natural cleaning products in order to reduce your exposure to potentially toxic chemicals. Regularly clean any vents in your home to minimize the dust in the air. Open a window if the weather permits.

Ironically, many items intended to improve the air (like air fresheners and candles) actually make it more difficult for us to breathe. New carpeting, paints and varnishes usually have volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that wreak havoc on your lungs. The Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI) has a Web site (<http://carpet-rug.org>) that identifies low-VOC carpet products. Demand low-VOC paints, carpets and coatings whenever these issues arise. Talk to your landlord if you are a renter.

Products used to kill bugs and pests are another culprit of indoor air pollution. Ventilate the area well after pesticide use, and use non-chemical methods of pest control whenever possible. If you can help it, avoid smoking indoors, which if nothing else can make your home smell like

smoke for days or weeks afterward.

Vacuuming and sweeping frequently takes dust out of your home and makes it easier to breathe. Molds reproduce with tiny invisible spores that float in the air. When these spores land on wet surfaces, they form breeding grounds for mold. Mold and bacteria are really bad for your lungs (and mold smells awful to boot) so keep your kitchen and bathroom clean and dry to dodge that bullet.

If you have allergies or asthma, or just really want to attack indoor air pollution head on, consider buying an air purifier that can attack these indoor air pollutants more aggressively. When it gets cold out, opening the windows isn't too practical, and you shouldn't have to freeze in order to breathe decent air, so an air purifier is

400, 000 square miles of Arctic sea ice have melted in the last 30 years (roughly the size of Texas).

The phantom load: how it haunts your electricity bills

By ALEX VOCKROTH

The phantom load, also called standby power, is energy that is used even when electronic devices are turned off but still plugged in.

Any electronic that operates by remote control uses a small amount of energy in the form of a receiver so that it is always on "standby" and ready to be used.

Also, all instant-on TV sets, which constitute the majority of TVs today, use electricity to maintain the standby state so viewers can have picture and sound immediately upon demand.

The term phantom load also refers to products like microwave ovens, DVD players, alarm clocks and stereos that use power every day of every year but often sit overlooked as a significant power consumer.

All of these items use electric energy 100 percent of the time they are plugged in order to run their digital clocks or other display features.

The amount of energy required to maintain these low-key states may seem negligible, but the U.S. Department of Energy estimates that 75 percent of the electricity consumed by home electronics is used when these products aren't even

turned on.

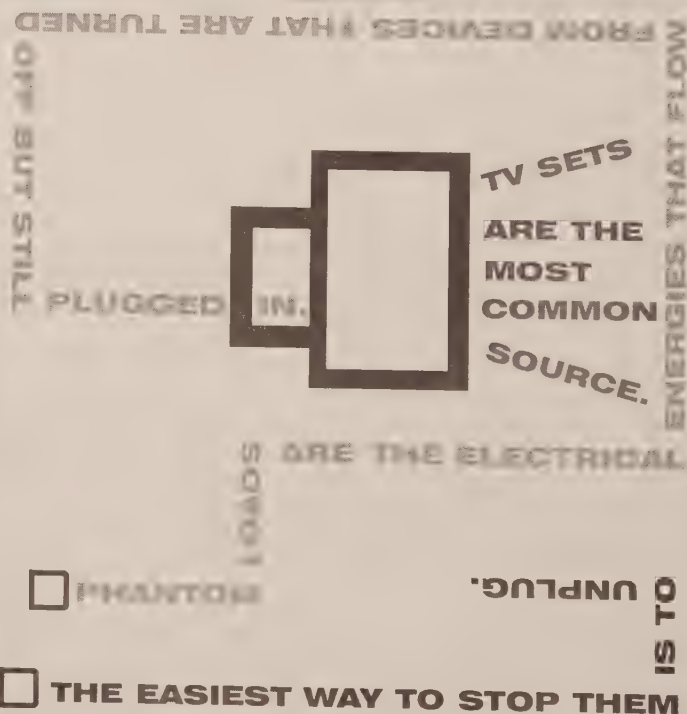
The immediate problem of the phantom load is the often unnecessary addition to the monthly electric bill, but larger-scale problems exist as well: Scientists have estimated that the phantom loads generated from just American TVs have enough energy to run a Chernobyl-sized power plant.

This makes the phantom load issue a serious one, but there are simple solutions to reduce standby powers.

First, obtaining an inexpensive home power meter like the Kill-a-Watt can help to determine which appliances and electronics are using the most energy. Then, the devices that eat up the most energy can be plugged in to switchable outlets or power strips with on/off buttons. When switched off, these devices will no longer create a phantom load.

Another good tip is to purchase products that boast the Energy Star label. These products have been approved by the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency as energy-efficient electronics.

Unplugging wall chargers when cell phones, iPods, batteries or other items are not hooked up to them is another incredibly easy way to reduce phantom loads.



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

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Debate has raged over whether or not hybrid cars are actually better for the environment.

The truth about hybrid cars: Do they live up to the hype?

By DEMIAN KENDALL

With gas prices skyrocketing daily, many American consumers are looking for new gas-efficient, environmentally friendly cars. These cars may help the environment in the short term, but exactly how eco-friendly are they really?

We live in an age where "green" has become a marketing tool. Companies across the globe have jumped on the global warming bandwagon and produced lines of "green" clothing, merchandise and appliances. I even walked into a bar once that served "environmentally-conscious" vodka drinks, which were of course, almost double the price of regular drinks. One thing that consumers must understand is that these corporations are out to make money; the environment often takes a back seat. The American automobile industry is no different. In 1975, Congress enacted the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) regulations, which were designed to set quotas for American auto companies to make fuel consumption more efficient, which would in effect decrease the emission of greenhouse gases and slow the global warming process.

However, automobile companies have only manipulated the system. The quota for these companies is calculated by multiplying the actual fuel used for alternative fuel vehicles by a "Fuel Content Factor" of .15, and dual-fuel vehicles that are produced average the amount of alternative fuel and gasoline to reach the minimum limit. With most of these vehicles, less than one percent of the fuel used is alternative

fuel, Ethanol 85. In short, auto companies have to produce a very small amount of fuel-friendly vehicles to meet the quota, a number which is dwarfed by the amount of gas-guzzling SUVs that are manufactured. As long as their number of "fuel-efficient" car fleets averages out with the number of gas-exclusive cars produced to fit the CAFE quota, then they can put out as many less-efficient cars as they desire.

The actual production of Ethanol 85, in itself, takes its toll on the ozone layer, as several carcinogens are released in the process. The stations where one can actually purchase the gasoline-E-85 mixture are also extremely limited. E-85 stations are found mainly in the Midwest, since the production of the material is chiefly derived from crops of corn. Its production also hurts the agricultural economy due to the massive amounts of corn that are needed for its manufacturing, thus significantly-raising corn prices.

These "environmentally friendly" cars are also jacked up significantly in price since so few models are produced. The new Chevrolet Tahoe Hybrid starts at a price of \$50,490, which is significantly higher than the gasoline-exclusive models. The automobile industry has made "economic conservation" a rich man's game.

The answer to creating a better environment does not lie with the automobile industry. It is not in their interest to stop global warming; their only desire is to sell cars. So before you jump on the "green" bandwagon and waste your money on an environmentally friendly car, think about what difference you're actually making.

Share your food, and do it in style, with Tupperware

The rich variety of these reusable containers resolves every storage dilemma

By MARY DOMAN

The entrance into true adulthood and independent living is full of tough decisions.

We're at a time in our lives when we have to make our own decisions, start our careers and find that special someone.

Eventually, we have to say goodbye to dorm living, Dining Dollars, eight-month-long roommates and 50-minute classes in favor of real houses, real money, permanent families and jobs. It's time to throw out the Hopkins Deli brown bag, Nolan's to-go box and Domino's cardboard box for the last time.

Say goodbye to the disposable lifestyle of college and embrace the long-lasting benefits of your graduated lifestyle.

Scared to tackle it all at once? No fear. It's not too late to start preparing yourself for the real world. You could invest some money, start dating someone you care about as a person, actually iron your clothes or apply for an internship. Or you could just buy some Tupperware.

Tupperware is a wonderful way to save money and time. And food. And, especially, the Earth.

With all this pressure, plus the plethora of Tupperware options available, picking the best containers can be rather stressful. With a few tips, though, you can cleanly seal the chaos of choosing the right Tupperware.

For your basic go-to Tupperware, think simple. Square-shaped boxes are good because they fit into the corners of the refrigerator, sides of shelves or alongside those books in your backpack. Not that you'd be taking food into the library, of course.

Unless you are particularly keen on storing cantaloupe slices or whole pizzas, one circular Tupperware should be enough.

The curvy bodies of those circular Tupperwares only want to waste space and keep your cabinets from closing all

the way.

When you start collecting, first develop a strong foundation of basic Tupperware. Once you have a core of classic, all-around Tupperware, you can shop for the "extended members" of your Tupperware family.

This is where Tupperware gets crazy. I'm talking salad-dressing compartments, steam vents and condensation catchers.

My personal favorite is expandable Tupperwares, whose bodies you can fold neatly (like an accordion) into thin discs when you're not using them. Splurge on

the Tupperwares made just for cereal storage and say goodbye to those stale spoonfuls of smashed Cheerios.

And finally, the salad storer: This design has made quite an impact in the Tupperware world with its practical, versatile body.

The lid has a built-in mini compartment, perfect for a few tablespoons of your favorite dressing.

When lunchtime rolls around, you don't have to mess with a sloppy separate container for dressing or soggy lettuce. Just whip out your Tupperware, snap (or push) the dressing compartment and enjoy! You can even pop the lid back on the container to shake and coat your delicious creation.

Tupperware coordination is also an important aspect of any Tupperware collection. Look for Tupperware that stacks well, or buy a packaged set. Nothing's worse than a tumbling wall of mismatched Tupperware! And, the most important thing to keep in mind when Tupperware-searching? Fun.

Yes, Tupperware is a part of the adult-world, but that doesn't mean it has to be scary as everything else.

Find a Tupperware that speaks to you. There are tons of different colors, prints and textures available. No one wants to store his or her food in a drab grey box. Treat your grown-up self (and the environment) to some quality, beautiful Tupperware!

Once you have a core of classic, all-around Tupperware, you can shop for the "extended members" of your Tupperware family.

On average, 18 pounds of pesticides per acre are used on golf courses annually, compared to the 2.7 pounds used in agriculture.

Incorporate a little green into your life with these products

By ALEX VOCKROTH

So maybe you want to be more environmentally friendly, but you don't want to give up the conveniences of modern technology. Perhaps you care deeply about the pesticides used in South American agriculture, but you also love your cotton bedding, and now you can't sleep at night knowing that you are a heartless consumer helping to fund the slow destruction of the environment.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.HOMEDEPOT.COM](http://www.homepot.com)

Seventh Generation Natural Dish Liquid

This dish soap is biodegradable and hypo-allergenic, and the bottle is recyclable in most areas. At about \$3.29 for a standard 25-oz. bottle, it's even affordable to be good to the environment! Seventh Generation produces a number of other environmentally and animal-safe cleaning products in a variety of olfactory-pleasing scents.

Costa Rica Natural paper products

This company uses 100 percent recycled materials for its paper, but we're

not just talking old newspaper and cardboard. In the mountains of the small Central-American nation, innovative processes mix post-consumer content with agricultural by-products, such as banana stalks, to create unique stationery, journals, agenda books and more. Sure, it costs a little more than the looseleaf you pick up at Staples, but when was the last time you used school supplies as a conversation piece?

Trader Joe's Pop-Up Sponges

These multipurpose sponges from Trader Joe's grocery are just as sudsy as any other sponge but are made from natural vegetable cellulose, meaning they are biodegradable and can be composted after use. They come in 12-packs and are inexpensive. Plus, they expand from condensed to full size in water, which is really fun to watch.

HYmini handheld charger

This revolutionary universal charger will power up your iPod, MP3 player or cell phone by harnessing wind power and solar energy. The device works by using renewable wind power to charge a rechargeable, built-in lithium ion battery. Other charging options include solar panels and a hand-crank generator. For \$50, you'll get the portable HYmini plus five connectors and a USB transfer cable. The HYmini also provides an AC adapter should you choose to use old-fashioned electricity to power up, but really, what would Al



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.BLOGGER.COM](http://www.blogger.com)

Trader Joe's is a great place to pick up environmentally-friendly products. Try their sponges made of cellulose.

Gore think?

Organic Inspirations bedding

Made from 100 percent organically grown cotton, these sheets have never met a chemical pesticide, which is great for the Earth and for your skin. Organic Inspirations utilizes a chlorine-free whit-

ening process and colors the fibers with low-impact dyes. Their comforters are stuffed with organic wool to keep you resting comfortably year-round. You'll pay a little more for the luxurious weaving and materials, but it's worth it for the feeling of self-importance you'll get from your efforts to save the world.

Simple changes you can make to help save the Earth

Save water.

- Don't leave the faucet running when you're brushing your teeth.
- While long, hot showers may be divine, try to keep them to a minimum.

Waste less energy.

- Turn off your lights for a smaller electric bill and more efficient energy use.
- Turn off your water heater when you go away.
- Unplug items you're not using.
- Turn off or hibernate your computer overnight.

Reduce air pollution.

- Buy eco-friendly cleaners.
- Don't use hairspray with aerosol. That's so 1990s anyway!
- Use insect/rodent traps rather than chemical sprays.
- Use public transportation, carpooling or a bike to get around.

Save paper.

- Use real utensils and napkins rather than paper plates.
- Reuse cardboard boxes.
- Shop with a canvas bag. But if you forget it, use a paper bag, not plastic!



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.COOLEST-GADGETS.COM](http://www.coolest-gadgets.com)

A typical U.S. household washes 400 loads of laundry in one year. Don't feel so bad about your out-of-hand laundry situation: you're saving water.

Eating healthy and clean with chemical-free, organic food

By SARAH SABSHON

Imagine guzzling down a glass of chemicals with every meal. How do some pesticides sound as a nice side dish? Not so appetizing, huh?

You must be thinking to yourselves, now why would I want to ingest chemicals? Well you do ingest chemicals, every time you bite into that apple from your Meal in a Minute.

Almost everything you eat is completely doused in pesticides, chemicals and hormones. This includes everything from beef to berries, which is why organic produce has become more popular over the years.

What "organic" literally means is that, under certain national standards, foods are grown without the use of any conventional fertilizers, synthetic herbicides or pesticides and in healthy environments that do not contain human waste and sludge. The effect is to have food that is cleaner and higher in vitamins and minerals.

A recent report in March 2008 from the Organic Center claimed that organic food was 25 percent more nutritious than conventional produce.

In a 2001 study by Washington State University, a series of blind panels unanimously voted organic apples sweeter than their conventional counterparts.

That's not the only time that organic food has been considered tastier — the

better taste has been attributed to a higher soil quality that is associated with the absence of chemicals in the growing environment. The taste and nutritional benefits of organic food are not definite, but there is an increasing number of reports that support the idea.

Historically, most organic farms were "mom and pop" type producers, but since the early 1990s, organic food has seen a steady increase of 20 percent each year for the last five years and currently accounts for 2 percent of food sales worldwide, according to the journal *Nature*.

In order to ensure that the organic name remains respectable, the United States created the National Organic Program (NOP), which has defined standards for all organic food sold in the country.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.KEYMECHANICAL.COM](http://www.keymechanical.com)

Though there are many local ways to find the "organic option," Whole Foods might be the most well-known means of doing so.

Additionally the NOP standards state that only products listed as "certified organic" are considered organic under the NOP.

As of late, there has been a significant push for organic food due to the dangers of pesticide ingestion. Through the process of bioaccumulation, the amount of pesticides with each higher level of the food chain increases (that means big trouble for humans, who are at the top).

In 1993 the National Research Council released the results of a study stating that the major source of exposure to pesticides for infants and children is through diet. Rachel Carson's famed *Silent Spring* emphasizes the dangers of ingesting pesticides. They accumulate in the body's fatty tissue and can result in heightened toxicity in organs and nervous system damage. Pregnant women should be especially wary, as pesticide poisoning can result in birth defects and infant death.

Not only is organic food better for your body, but recent studies have shown that it is also better for the environment. Without the use of pesticides, organic farms increase biodiversity and prevent the harm of wildlife. They also use less energy since they do not have the extraneous waste that comes from chemical packaging and disposal.

As organic food becomes more popular, organic farms also release less carbon dioxide into the air than the average farm. In short-term standards, organic farms might not make a huge difference

environmentally, but in the long term they do, especially in the areas of sustainability and recycling of carbon and nitrogen.

So if organic food is so much better for us, then why is it so hard to come by? The bottom line is that organic food is more expensive, typically costing 10-40 percent more than the average product. Since organic farms are still in the minority and organic food is produced on a smaller scale, there are additional costs to help process and package. Also, there are sometimes added shipping costs, as with eggs and chicken.

Obviously, the more organic food you eat, the better, but as college students, budgets tend to be tight. Some foods don't need to be organic — the risks are significantly lower with foods that have thick skins or peels (think bananas and oranges).

However, there is an almost unanimous vote on the top 10 foods consumers should always buy organic: strawberries (which are the single most pesticide-contaminated food in the United States), other types of berries (like raspberries), grapes, milk, apples, peaches, nectarines, kiwi fruit, green beans and spinach (remember the *E. coli* scare?).

Encourage your local supermarkets to carry more organic produce and you will not only be helping your community and the local economy, you'll be caring for yourself.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ORGANIC-FINLAND.COM](http://www.organic-finland.com)

Organically grown fruits and vegetables have not been genetically modified and are better for you.

It takes five to eight years for a rubber tree to mature to the girth at which it can be tapped. The rubber's economic lifespan after that is 20 years.



GREEN IN BALTIMORE

Being green doesn't always mean being global

By ALEXANDER TRAUM

Throughout this issue you've learned about what "being green" means and how to make decisions in your everyday life to keep the environment (and yourself) healthy and clean. Using the environmentally friendly products and conserving resources are just some ways to do this, but not the only. Homewood Campus, Baltimore City and the surrounding areas contain a plethora of organizations where one can, on the grass roots level, participate in greening our communities.

Sierra Club, a national environmental advocacy group, has their own chapter in Baltimore and is a great place to get involved in local, state, and national environmental activism. The Greater Baltimore Group of the Sierra Club both tackles the politics of environmental reform as well as educating the public on the importance of maintaining an environmentally friendly society. They do the former by lobbying elected officials in Baltimore City, Baltimore County and Harford County to support green legislation. If you have no experience in lobbying or activism, that's not a problem. The Club will send a brief description of the issue that is being legislated on along with the information of how to contact the officials who will be deciding on the respective legislation. This type of grass-roots level organizing is how substantive changes are enacted on the local level.

This chapter of the Sierra Club also includes several "Action Teams," which always welcome new members. The Greater Baltimore Group Action Teams, which each consist of several dozen volunteers, are each responsible to tackling a specific issue. For example, one Action Team helped save 200-acres of forest that instead of being used as development is now part of Oregon Ridge Park.

The Chapter is works to inform the public about the environment by hosting local hikes and camping trips. One program they organize provides inner-city Baltimore youth with outdoor experiences



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

such as nature hikes and camping trips. It is easy to become a leader of one of these outings. No experience is necessarily and they provide the necessary training.

Another organization that advocates on behalf of environmentally-friendly policies is the 1,000 Friends of Maryland. This organization works all over to the state to address the challenges of urban and suburban development and how to develop communities that are green as well as economically prosperous. Like the Sierra organization it is easy to volunteer and lobby on behalf of legislation and policies that will improve the health of our communities.

There are also other organizations in Baltimore that contribute to creating a cleaner and healthier city. The Book Thing is an organization that both collects

used books and distributes them. And it's all for free! The organization essentially is a recycling service for books. Putting unwanted books into the hands of those who want them is a small, yet clever way to conserve resources...and build your library. Plus, The Book Thing is always open for volunteers.

Another local organization that is in the business of conservation is The Loading Dock, Inc. This Baltimore-based organization is a materials reuse facility, which according to its website "increases the supply and use of affordable building materials for housing and community improvement by redirecting landfill-bound, reusable materials into productive use."

Of course there is also plenty of ways to get involved with environmental activism on campus. HEAT, Hopkins Energy

Action Team, is a campus organization that seeks to reduce Hopkins' carbon footprint. The group has lobbied, rather successfully, for the University to aim towards Carbon Neutrality. HEAT was an important force for the recent promises by the administration to move in this direction. HEAT is also always seeking new members to advance their agenda of making Hopkins a positive force for a sustainable, environmentally-friendly society.

For more information on the groups mentioned:

<http://maryland.sierraclub.org/baltimore/index.html>

<http://www.bookthing.org>

<http://www.loadingdock.org>

<http://www.jhu.edu/heat>

Most of the energy a computer uses over its lifetime is required for the manufacturing process (81 percent), not operation (19 percent).

Baltimore Green Week educates citizens with programs

Baltimore Green Week will strive to educate and inspire local residents to be more active in the community's environment, health and sustainability issues

By HEATHER BARBAKOFF

Imagine what a greener Baltimore would look like. Maybe it would have more trees, perhaps it would be more eco-friendly or have more recycling programs. For one week at the end of April and the beginning of May, volunteers in Baltimore will be not only imagining Baltimore as a greener place but through a series of programs, actively educating residents about the steps necessary to bring this dream to fruition.

From humble beginnings five years ago, when Baltimore Green Week (BGW) drew a few hundred people to its events, last year's attendance was estimated to be approximately 5,000. Originally founded by a group of people interested in green buildings, BGW now includes hundreds of participating organizations across Baltimore.

In the past three years, BGW has begun to diversify from its green building roots. Programs are now geared towards educating people in green issues from all backgrounds.

BGW's purpose is to increase the levels of both awareness and education that Baltimore residents have on how they can help to make the city cleaner and more environmentally friendly. The organizers provide educational programming for communities and individuals, while working with professional associations.

"We want everyone in Baltimore to know how important our environment is. The environment affects health, what we eat, how we live, what we can do with our free time, etc. We continue to reach out to a diverse group of people to educate them how to live in a healthy home, community and help all living creatures on the planet," said Carol Silldroff, Baltimore Green Week's program director.

BGW 2008 will take place from April 25 to May 1 and will offer over 14 programs. It is run by volunteers, many of whom are students; most notably, a Maryland Institute College of the Arts (MICA) graduate student designed the project's flyers. The keystone event will be the EcoFestival.

While BGW is an independent organization, the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks does provide support in the form of additional staff. As BGW has grown in the recent past, so has the amount of support it has been given.

The group itself is a very small organization that prepares for the festivals within seven to eight months. In this time, the group does all the fundraising and programming development necessary. All the events at BGW are free (with the exception of a program on organic food at Café Azafran), so a lot of work goes into the recruitment of vendors.

EcoFestival, which will occur on April 26, is an event designed to celebrate Baltimore's regional environment. Located in Druid Hill Park, the EcoFestival is a huge event that incorporates education, food and entertainment. There will be exhibits by non-profit organizations, as well as over 100 vendors available to sell organic products and provide information about green products and issues.

Healthy food options will be provided by Atwater's, Bluebird Coffee, the Yabba Pot and Propa Falafel and visitors will be encouraged to sample locally grown and organic, fair-trade foods.

Present at the EcoFestival will be a variety of musical groups, including Baltimore singer/songwriter Caleb Stine and the Brakemen and Ed Schrader from WHAM CITY!, among others.

"We really want the Baltimore community to come in. The music we have chosen is a real diverse bunch of groups

... [we] may have hip-hop, rock, blues ... [To] really bring in diverse groups," Silldroff said.

This year, there will also be an art exhibit entitled EcoArt, in which MICA students enrolled in a sustainability class will present their creations based upon the carbon footprint project, as well as local artists featuring pieces made with organic materials.

Also new to BGW this year is a green-job fair and a speaker, both which will take place at Morgan State University. The "Future for the Sustainable Workforce" is a job fair which will allow organizations that provide green job training to recruit. Architectural firms, construction companies and other companies that provide green work environments will be present.

Morgan State will immediately after be hosting the founder of the Green for All Foundation, Van Jones. Jones will be speaking about how to develop a green economy, how to create in the future a sustainable work force, and the importance of providing employees with a liv-

ing wage.

Other BGW programs include attending a City Council hearing on green legislation, green building tours and how to make a green household through methods of green cleaning supplies, lead testing and mold and non-toxic pest management.

Other programs will be occurring over the week's duration. The "Green Gathering" will be a cocktail party at Homewood campus's Café Azafran, with a tasting of organic and locally grown foods, while the "Tour de Trash" event will take place on the U.S. Coast Guard ship *Cutter Taney*. The discussion will be about water quality, storm runoff and pollution in the Baltimore Harbor. The Green Healthy Home program will be dedicated to teaching about home toxins.

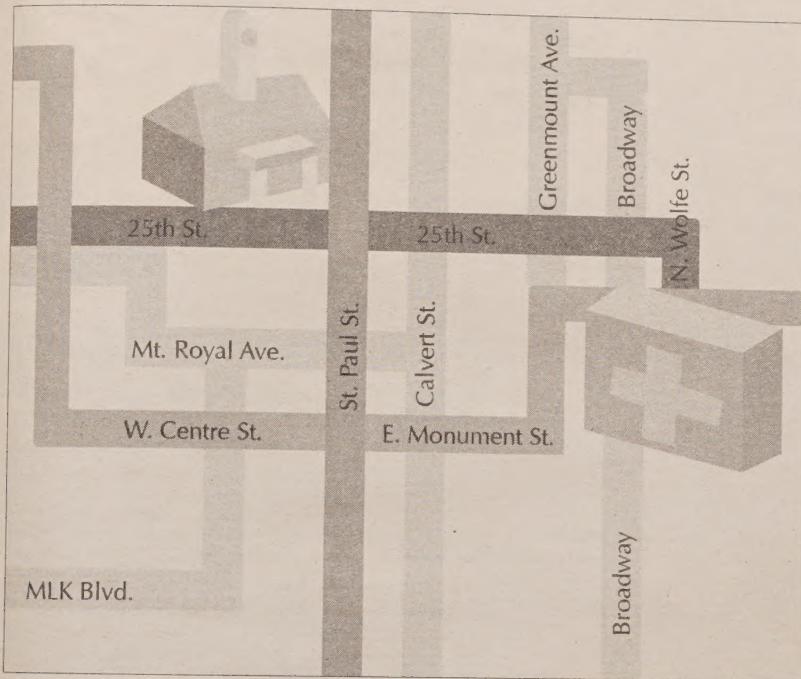
"I think that since people know what BGW is, it really is having an impact ... [the] word is spreading, I think some community groups may incorporate what they learn such as greening an alley or choosing healthier cleaning products," Silldroff said.



COURTESY OF BALTIMORE GREEN WEEK

In its fifth year, Baltimore Green Week has helped to raise residents' consciousness about a variety of environmental issues.

2,000 plastic bags weigh 30 lbs.; 2,000 paper bags weigh 280 lbs. Less material means less waste and fewer emissions. Use paper bags.



MATT HANSEN/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Getting around by bike made safe and easy for the eco-friendly

By MAX McKENNA

With gasoline prices set to hit record highs this summer, we can all take a cue from Pee-Wee Herman and ride our bikes more often. Not only is bicycle riding economically and ecologically sound, it's a great way to make some lactic acid and free up some time — combine that hour you spend every day on the stationary bike in the gym with that hour you spend everyday commuting into one super-hour of urban biking.

But the case against bike riding is easy: On a bike, you're never quite shielded from the weather or from being tackled, or being robbed if you get lost. While there's nothing you can do about the elements except to bundle up, you *can* take the right routes and make it to your destination safely. Baltimore, it turns out, is more bike-friendly than it seems.

If you're going between the Bayview Campus and the Hospital, the obvious route is the easiest. Cut west across Highlandtown on Eastern Avenue, then go north on Wolfe Street. If you're afraid that you've missed Wolfe, or are unsure of where it is, going north on Broadway (the obvious double street whose southern end becomes the heart of Fells Point) will eventually get you to the Hospital. It's a solid 3-mile trip that can be shortened if you know how to navi-

gate the twisting paths of Patterson Park, though this is not recommended at night.

When going from Homewood to the Hospital, things get a bit trickier. The quickest route is to follow 25th Street east. East 25th eventually buckles south and becomes North Wolfe, so this route is nearly fool-proof. Though not much longer than the trip between Bayview and the Hospital, if you stray, you might find yourself in some less-attractive, more difficult-to-navigate neighborhoods.

Here, then, the route of the Hopkins shuttle seems best. Take St. Paul Street south, then cut east on Monument Street (the street that intersects with, well, the Washington Monument in Mount Vernon). It's a matter of few blocks between the monument and the Hospital.

Same goes for the trip between Homewood and Bayview. If you could take your bike on the Jones Falls Expressway, the trip would be a cinch. Until then, though, you have to go across the city, which, if done correctly, can give you a great view of some beautiful rowhouses.

The city is currently working on a bike route that would follow the path of the Collegetown shuttle, connecting Homewood with Loyola, MICA, University of Baltimore and the other colleges in the city. If all goes as planned, the route should be up and running by next year.

Maryland public transit: greener (and cheaper!) travel

By MARIE CUSHING

Ever driven through Baltimore during rush hour? No, you haven't, because no one can drive during rush-hour traffic — it's just bumper-to-bumper cars crammed together, each one sending 19 pounds of carbon dioxide into the air for each gallon of gas burned.

So get out of the car and into Baltimore's public transportation system.

With many predicting gas prices could reach as high as \$4 per gallon, it's also a great alternative for your wallet.

Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon promises a cleaner, greener Baltimore if the new transportation system is approved.

Camden Yards? Jump on a city bus — Route 3 or 61 will go down to the Inner Harbor, while Route 11 goes up to Towson.

It seems like there's transportation to get you just about anywhere in the city — and if it doesn't stop where you need it to yet, then just wait. Future im-

provements to the Baltimore transit system are looking good, and they're looking green.

Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon promises a cleaner, greener Baltimore if the new transportation system is approved.

Plans will add 66 miles of rail to the existing subway and Light Rail, creating a whopping 68 new stations.

A section called the "Yellow Line" would have a stop along Charles Street, and would connect the city's colleges to the Inner Harbor and other spots.

Until then, there are still plenty of options to stay green and get around Baltimore.

Looking to make a trip to D.C.? You can hop on the Hopkins shuttle over to Penn Station. Most know that on weekdays it's easy to pick up a MARC ticket. On the weekends, your best bet is the Light Rail — get off at the station right before BWI and take the bus from there to the Metro. All it takes is a few more stops and you're in the capital!

Put the 30 bucks you would have spent on gas to good, environmentally friendly use.

If you donate that money to Trees for the Future, the group will plant 300 trees, enough to make up for the greenhouse gases your car gives off.

If you're not quite ready to give up your personal space, get into a Zipcar. You've seen these swanky hybrids dotting the University's parking lots, and now there are 10 cars available at any time.

For an hourly or daily rate, anyone can pick up a car. Zipcars make it really easy to be green — their hybrid engines get 60 miles to the gallon with half the emissions.

Grocery shopping? Take the shuttle route over to Giant, or the Light Rail to Lexington Market. Need to get to Towson? The Baltimore Collegetown Shuttle Network will get you there. Heading to



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.BTC.NET](http://www.btc.net)

The Light Rail is an inexpensive way to get around Baltimore.

Radioactive content in your wine?! A nuclear dump site close to the Champagne vineyards is leaking radioactive waste into the groundwater!



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